

GROW UP!



Part 6 ~ Putting Christ First
Trinity Baptist Church
Columbus, OH
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Matthew 6:33

“ But seek first his kingdom and his righteousness, and all these things will be given to you as well.”

What Does it Mean to “Put God First”?

- Think of Him First
- Love Him
- Have His Attitude
- Establish His Values
- Respond How He Would Respond
- Spend Attentive Time With Him

Putting God First...

- Ultimately it means to being filled with the Holy Spirit and allowing Him to guide and empower You

Ephesians 5:15-18

¹⁵ Be very careful, then, how you live—not as unwise but as wise, ¹⁶ making the most of every opportunity, because the days are evil. ¹⁷ Therefore do not be foolish, but understand what the Lord's will is. ¹⁸ Do not get drunk on wine, which leads to debauchery. Instead, be filled with the Spirit,

What Are Some Things We Raise above Christ?

- “Good” Activities...ministry work
- Family
- Career
- Ourselves

Examples: Mary and Martha (Luke 10:38-40)

The Parable of the Great Banquet (Luke 14:13-23)

The Danger of Putting Other Things Before God

- Competes with our Affection for Him
- Miss His Provision
- Miss His Supernatural Guidance When We Aren't Trusting Him
- We Disconnect from the Source of Joy and Contentment
- Our Lives are Fruitless

How Do We Put God First?

3 Ways to Put God First...

1. Seek God's kingdom over our own interest

- Be Concerned about His Kingdom and His Approval

Don't Worry...Matthew 6:25-34

²⁵ “Therefore I tell you, do not worry about your life, what you will eat or drink; or about your body, what you will wear. Is not life more than food, and the body more than clothes? ²⁶ Look at the birds of the air; they do not sow or reap or store away in barns, and yet your heavenly Father feeds them. Are you not much more valuable than they? ²⁷ Can any one of you by worrying add a single hour to your life?²⁸ “And why do you worry about clothes? See how the flowers of the field grow. They do not labor or spin. ²⁹ Yet I tell you that not even Solomon in all his splendor was dressed like one of these. ³⁰ If that is how God clothes the grass of the field, which is here today and tomorrow is thrown into the fire, will he not much more clothe you—you of little faith? ³¹ So do not worry, saying, ‘What shall we eat?’ or ‘What shall we drink?’ or ‘What shall we wear?’ ³² For the pagans run after all these things, and your heavenly Father knows that you need them. ³³ But seek first his kingdom and his righteousness, and all these things will be given to you as well. ³⁴ Therefore do not worry about tomorrow, for tomorrow will worry about itself. Each day has enough trouble of its own.

2. Live To Please Jesus

- Please the Lord allows Him to take responsibility for the outcome
- Pleasing the Lord simplifies life
- Please the Lord may mean disappointing others

Matthew 6:24

“No one can serve two masters. Either you will hate the one and love the other, or you will be devoted to the one and despise the other. You cannot serve both God and money.”

3. Be Led By the Word rather than the World

“Do not conform to the pattern of this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind. Then you will be able to test and approve what God’s will is—his good, pleasing and perfect will.” Romans 12:2

“My sheep listen to my voice; I know them, and they follow me.” John 10:27

- Free Will...Human Choice
- Permissive Will...What God Allows
- Perfect Will...God’s Intent and Desire

Making Gd First In Our Life
Shows How Much the Lord
Loves us...All the Pieces Fall
Into Place.

Next Lesson

- **GROW UP!**

His Strength