



The Week of June 5, 2022

New Priorities

Conversation Guide

This Week's Takeaways

- **I am engaged in the church:** (Acts 2:46-47) I consistently connect with my church body for fellowship and community while using my spiritual gifts for ministry and encouragement.
- **I show great compassion:** (Psalm 82:3-4) I actively show my caring for those who are vulnerable in real and tangible ways.
- **I place God's priorities above my own:** (Matthew 6:33) I will place God's priorities as described in the Bible ahead of my own.

Intro Questions

- How do you keep track of your schedule?
 - Calendar app? Paper planner? Wall Calendar at home?
 - Are you good at keeping track of your schedule?
- What takes up the most time in your life? What comes second?
 - Is it work? Kid's activities? Hobbies?
- How do you set your priorities when it comes to how you spend your time?

New Priorities

Ephesians 5:15–17

Pay careful attention, then, to how you walk—not as unwise people but as wise—making the most of the time, because the days are evil. So don't be foolish, but understand what the Lord's will is.

- What are some ways you can “pay careful attention” to how you walk?
- Why is it important to make the most of the time?
- How do we know if we're making the Lord's will our top priority?
- What would those closest to you say your priorities are?

Romans 12:2

Do not be conformed to this age, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind, so that you may discern what is the good, pleasing, and perfect will of God.

- What is required for us to discern God's will?
- How should God's will influence your priorities?

James 3:13-18

Who among you is wise and understanding? By his good conduct he should show that his works are done in the gentleness that comes from wisdom. But if you have bitter envy and selfish ambition in your heart, don't boast and deny the truth. Such wisdom does not come down from above but is earthly, unspiritual, demonic. For where there is envy and selfish ambition, there is disorder and every evil practice. But the wisdom from above is first pure, then peace-loving, gentle, compliant, full of mercy and good fruits, unwavering, without pretense. And the fruit of righteousness is sown in peace by those who cultivate peace.

- How can you apply this godly wisdom to setting your priorities and your schedule?
- How does motivation affect your decisions and the priorities you set?

Galatians 6:7–10

Don't be deceived: God is not mocked. For whatever a person sows he will also reap, because the one who sows to his flesh will reap destruction from the flesh, but the one who sows to the Spirit will reap eternal life from the Spirit. Let us not get tired of doing good, for we will reap at the proper time if we don't give up. Therefore, as we have opportunity, let us work for the good of all, especially for those who belong to the household of faith.

- Take a look at how you spend your time. What are you sowing?
- How can we use our time to ensure we can take the opportunities to do good that come our way?
- How important is it to be careful of what we are consuming? (see Psalm 101:3)

Colossians 3:17

And whatever you do, in word or in deed, do everything in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God the Father through him.

- What are you doing that you would be embarrassed to do with Jesus standing visibly right next to you?
 - Is there ever a time that Jesus isn't with us? How should that affect how we spend our time?

Matthew 25:31–46

When the Son of Man comes in his glory, and all the angels with him, then he will sit on his glorious throne. All the nations will be gathered before him, and he will separate them one from another, just as a shepherd separates the sheep from the goats. He will put the sheep on his right and the goats on the left. Then the King will say to those on his right, 'Come, you who are blessed by my Father; inherit the kingdom prepared for you from the foundation of the world.'

"For I was hungry and you gave me something to eat; I was thirsty and you gave me something to drink; I was a stranger and you took me in; I was naked and you clothed me; I was sick and you took care of me; I was in prison and you visited me."

"Then the righteous will answer him, 'Lord, when did we see you hungry and feed you, or thirsty and give you something to drink? When did we see you a stranger and take you in, or without clothes and clothe you? When did we see you sick, or in prison, and visit you?'"

"And the King will answer them, 'Truly I tell you, whatever you did for one of the least of these brothers and sisters of mine, you did for me.' "Then he will also say to those on the left, 'Depart from me, you who are cursed, into the eternal fire prepared for the devil and his angels! For I was hungry and you gave me nothing to eat; I was thirsty and you gave me nothing to drink; I was a stranger and you didn't take me in; I was naked and you didn't clothe me, sick and in prison and you didn't take care of me.'

"Then they too will answer, 'Lord, when did we see you hungry, or thirsty, or a stranger, or without clothes, or sick, or in prison, and not help you?'"

"Then he will answer them, 'Truly I tell you, whatever you did not do for one of the least of these, you did not do for me.'

"And they will go away into eternal punishment, but the righteous into eternal life."

- How would your priorities change based on what Jesus tells us in this passage?
- How can you simplify your life and schedule to be ready to meet the needs of others?
- How does this change the way you treat or view other people? Yourself?

Next Steps

- Make a list of what your priorities should be and post it on your fridge (for example):
 - Jesus
 - Others
 - Family
 - Church family
 - Neighbors (who is your neighbor?)
 - You
- Do a personal time audit. Go as detailed as works for you. This blog shares some good basics of how to do a time audit. <https://organizingmoms.com/how-to-do-a-time-audit/>