

Priorities Really need Adjustment

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John 15:4 *Abide in me, and I in you*
John 14:15 *If ye love me, keep*
Phil. 2:3 *Let nothing be done through selfish*
Ephesians 5:16 *Redeeming the time*
Deuteronomy 6:6 *These commandments*
John 12:46 *I am come a light into the*
Philippians 2:5 *Let this mind be in you*

1 Every day presents everyone with priorities—What is *really important*? What *has to be done*? What is *absolutely necessary* to take care of?

2 Priorities in the correct order means priorities *adjusted* so that our spiritual interests are *first*!

3 The world today has a million distractions that can quickly command our attention or shift our focus from what matters *most* to what matters *least*.

4 If we are too busy to spend time in the Word and kneel to pray—we are *Too busy!*

5 As each day begins—millions connect—checking a cell phone; a tablet; or a computer—they log onto Facebook; Snapchat; Pinterest; WhatsApp; or LinkedIn—but is this of any spiritual benefit?

6 If we are wasting *time* on social media, our *priorities really need adjustment*.

7 AV John 15:4 “*Abide in me, and I in you. As the branch cannot bear fruit of itself, except it abide in the vine; no more can ye, except ye abide in me.*”

8 Too often we *abide online* and bearing no fruit of righteousness. Our priorities are often out of adjustment.

9 If we *abide in Christ*, we will want to live as He told us to in the Gospels.

10 Our first priority is to follow His advice AV John 14:15 “*If ye love me, keep my commandments.*” Keeping His instructions means showing divine love toward others.

11 AV John 13:34 “*A new commandment I give unto you, That ye love one another; as I have loved you, that ye also love one another.*”

12 Loving *Him* means loving *those* around us—putting priority on *their* needs and interests rather than ours.

13 NKJV Philippians 2:3 “*Let nothing be done through selfish ambition or conceit, but in lowliness of mind let each esteem others better than himself.*”

14 With so many distractions today, we need to be sure to prioritize what matters most—our *spiritual* interests and the interests of young ones in our care.

15 We have been warned—AV Revelation 22:20 “*Surely I come quickly. Amen. Even so, come, Lord Jesus.*”

16 If Jesus will return *quickly* and *suddenly*—taking the *world* by surprise, then having our *spiritual priorities in place* must be *first priority* always!

17 Our attention is *easily* diverted, and our priorities are often *out* of adjustment. Many *unimportant* things can get our attention.

18 AV Ephesians 5:15 “*See then that ye walk circumspectly [be very careful how you live WEY], not as fools, but as wise, 16 Redeeming the time, because the days are evil.*”

19 First Priority should be on *reading* the Bible, saying prayers, and *advising* the children.

20 NIV Deuteronomy 6:6 “*These commandments that I give you today are to be upon your hearts.*”

21 7 *Impress them on your children. Talk about them when you sit at home and when you walk along the road, when you lie down and when you get up.*”

22 The Holy Spirit will inspire us to put *first* priority on our *spiritual* interests.

23 What is most *valuable* to children but least *costly* to us is *our time*! First priority should be placed on having *quality* time with the children; giving them our *undivided* attention; and not allowing ourselves to be distracted with things of *lesser* importance.

24 Quality time with them can be just *watching* them play; or joining in a game *with* them, and always *teaching* them manners—how to be respectful toward adults. NKJV 1 Peter 5:5 “*Submit yourselves to your elders.*”

25 A child must be *taught* to say *thank you*; to be *respectful*; and to *share* things—because *manners, respect, and generosity* do not come naturally!

26 Material things are of *least* importance and the feelings of others are *most* important. Our prayer can be: *Lord, please help me to do Your will and to place first priority on what is truly important!*

27 Tomorrow will present us with priorities—so we should get up early so we can say our prayers and read the Bible. God wants to *speak* with us—that is *first* priority, and He will *enlighten* us if we ask Him.

28 AV John 12:46 “*I am come a light into the world, that whosoever believeth on me should not abide in darkness.*”

29 Our prayer is that God *enlighten* us to His Truth and enable us to *apply* the principle of trust on Him concerning everything through that day.

30 There are so many things that can distract our attention—it is vitally *important* that we stay focused on the *important*—things that are of *spiritual* benefit—to us, the children, and the family.

31 As the day progresses, priorities will need adjustment and placed in the correct order.

32 We need to ask why we are involved in what we are *doing, reading, viewing,* or is taking up much of our *time*—*Is there any spiritual benefit in this?*

33 *Is it any help to me or the children? Am I just entertaining myself and taking valuable time away from my family?*

34 There may be some *interests* or *activities* that take up our *time*—things that may not be wrong in themselves, but spending our *time* and our *energy* on them can mean taking our *time* and *energy* away from the children or the family who *need* our attention.

35 We need to ask God for divine *wisdom* so we *know* what is of true *spiritual benefit* and *lasting value*.

36 Jesus spent all of His *time* helping others and seeing to the *needs* of the *person* He was interacting with—teaching, helping, healing, and encouraging everyone to stay connected to the Vine.

37 AV **Philippians 2:5** “*Let this mind be in you, which was also in Christ Jesus.*”

38 Jesus loved and forgave those who *loved* Him; and He loved and forgave those who did *not love* Him! That is to be *our attitude*.

39 Whatever we are planning to get involved *with* or interested *in*—let us ask: In doing this, am I following the *Word* or the *world*?

40 We are given only so much *time*—how we *use it* is so important! Screen-time today is a major factor—much *time* can be *wasted* staring at a screen. *What* is taking up most of our *time*, is the issue.

41 Priorities adjusted means we are never *so busy* that we are *too busy* to read the Word, to say our prayers and to spend quality time with the children—helping them, teaching them, and showing them how to *share* in a *self-centered* world.

42 As we end the day, priorities may still need adjustment—seeing to the needs of the family or little ones—reminding them of *God’s love* for them and of *our love* for them; and making sure that they *know* we are *blessed* to have them.

43 Reading the Bible to them before bedtime is a priority. NLT **Psalm 4:8** “*I will lie down in peace and sleep, for you alone, O Lord, will keep me safe.*”

44 We should keep the request for refreshing sleep before God and asking Him for wisdom if our peace is being disturbed.

45 NKJV **Psalm 121:4** “*He who keeps Israel Shall neither slumber nor sleep.*” God is always ready to answer any important request.

46 Priorities in a right order does not mean we *stop doing* things we *like* to do, or we *start doing* things we would rather *not* do—it just means placing priorities in correct order and asking God to help us follow through with the important ones.

47 As the day begins, let us be willing to *reset* or *adjust* our priorities so that important ones are taken care of *first*—and the less important things *second* or *third* or *later*.

48 Children *look* to us and *listen* to how we talk and respond—it is a priority that they *hear* and *see* Christlike responses and attitudes.

49 Children did not *ask* to be brought into the world, but if God blesses us with them, He will surely enable us to put *first priority* on their needs.

50 The apostle wrote NIV **1 Timothy 4:15** “*Be diligent in these matters; give yourself wholly to them, so that everyone may see your progress.*”

51 *16 Watch your life and doctrine closely. Persevere in them, because if you do, you will save both yourself and your hearers.*”

52 Thanking and praising God for our many blessings should be a priority; AV **Psalm 9:1** “*I will praise thee, O LORD, with my whole heart.*”

53 Praising His *Name* means doing His *will*—spending time in His Word; trusting Him for wisdom; and being ready to readjust priorities.

54 Tomorrow—if we find ourselves rushing into the *day* before taking the time to hear what God is telling us from the Bible; or before saying our prayers and claiming His protection for that day, then it is time to readjust and put our *priorities in order!*

55 The consensus is that no one ever says: *I wish I had spent more time at work!* Or: *I spent too much time with my children.*

56 Unfortunately, the opposite is often so true: *I wish I had spent less time at the office and more time with the family!*

57 Little ones become young adults *so* quickly—those precious growing years vanish like a vapor! *First* priority must be on spending *prime* time with them today and every day.

58 God is waiting to *hear* from us, and He is wanting to *empower* us to re-adjust priorities, so they are *in the right order* and on the *right ones*—*the family and children!*

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1. Spend time in the Word
2. Love others; obey Christ
3. Make good use of our time
4. Teach children by example

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