

BEING FOCUSED IN OUR CHRISTIAN WALK (HAVING AN ETERNAL PERSPECTIVE)

Jesus Himself said,

“You did not choose Me, but I chose you and appointed you that you should go and bear fruit, and that your fruit should remain, that whatever you ask the Father in My name He may give you.” **(John 15:16)**

- As Christians we have been saved for a purpose

The Apostle Paul wrote,

“For we are His workmanship, created in Christ Jesus for good works, which God prepared beforehand that we should walk in them.”
(Ephesians 2:10)

The Apostle Paul also wrote,

“Now all things are of God, who has reconciled us to Himself through Jesus Christ, and has given us the ministry of reconciliation, that is, that God was in Christ reconciling the world to Himself, not imputing their trespasses to them, and has committed to us the word of reconciliation. Now then, we are ambassadors for Christ, as though God were pleading through us: we implore you on Christ’s behalf, be reconciled to God.”
(2 Corinthians 5:18-20)

- AS CHRISTIANS WE ARE TO BE IN THE WORLD BUT NOT OF IT (That we are meant to be salt and light)

This is why the Apostle Paul wrote,

“And do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind, that you may prove what is that good and acceptable and perfect will of God.” **(Romans 12:2)**

- **We have one gift of life here on earth to store up treasures in heaven**

This is why Jesus Himself said,

“Do not lay up for yourselves treasures on earth, where moth and rust destroy and where thieves break in and steal; but lay up for yourselves treasures in heaven, where neither moth nor rust destroys and where thieves do not break in and steal. For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also.” (Matthew 6:19-21)

- **We have one gift of life to leave an eternal legacy in the lives of others by helping others to come to Christ and to live for the Lord**
- **With the imminent rapture of all true believers, if ever there is a time for us to be focused in our walk with the Lord, NOW is the time**
- **At a time when so many people are in need of salvation it is crucial that we do not become sidetracked in our walk with Lord**

So today I want to look at just a few keys that can help us to stay FOCUSED in our walk with the Lord so that our lives can make a great eternal difference in the lives of many as we simply remain committed to fulfilling God’s plan and purpose for our lives here on earth

1) In a materialist world we need to always make sure that our love for Jesus is our greatest priority in life

Jesus Himself said,

“‘And you shall love the LORD your God with all your heart, with all your soul, with all your mind, and with all your strength.’ This is the first commandment.” **(Mark 12:30)**

Jesus Himself also said,

“No one can serve two masters; for either he will hate the one and love the other, or else he will be loyal to the one and despise the other. You cannot serve God and mammon.” **(Matthew 6:24)**

IT IS OUR LOVE FOR GOD THAT WILL HELP US TO ALWAYS HAVE THE RIGHT KINGDOM PRIORITIES IN OUR LIFE

King David wrote,

“Delight yourself also in the Lord, And He shall give you the desires of your heart.” **(Psalm 37:4)**

2) The importance of continually involving God in all of our plans (Having a lifestyle of prayer)

The Devil will continually try and complicate our lives by getting us to make wrong choices in life

Life is full of important choices

We need to always gain God’s perspective and guidance in life so that we make right choices in life

In the book of James we read,

“If any of you lacks wisdom, let him ask of God, who gives to all liberally and without reproach, and it will be given to him.”

(James 1:5)

The Apostle Paul wrote,

“Rejoice always, pray without ceasing, In everything give thanks; for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus for you.”

(1 Thessalonians 5:16-18)

In the book of Proverbs we read,

“Trust in the LORD with all your heart, And lean not on your own understanding; In all your ways acknowledge Him, And He shall direct your paths.” **(Proverbs 3:5-6)**

3) We need to have a clear understanding of what God has called us to do (FOCUS ON) in each season of our life

In the book of Ecclesiastes we read,

“To everything there is a season, A time for every purpose under heaven.” **(Ecclesiastes 3:1)**

God will bless and anoint the things that He has called us to do in life

God’s plan for our life progressively unfolds over time

King David wrote,

“The steps of a good man are ordered by the LORD and He delights in his way.” **(Psalm 37:23)**

Without a clear vision and focus for our Christian walk, we will invariably squander much of our time on things that have no real eternal significance

In the book of Proverbs we read,

“Where there is no revelation, the people cast off restraint; But happy is he who keeps the law.” (Proverbs 29:18)

Continually knowing the WILL OF GOD for our lives helps us to be continually at the right place at the right time doing the right thing. This is a great key to bearing much fruit in our lives and ministries

This is why the Apostle Paul wrote, “See then that you walk circumspectly, not as fools but as wise, redeeming the time, because the days are evil. Therefore do not be unwise, but understand what the will of the Lord is.” (Ephesians 5:15-17)

4) The importance of being continually guided by the Holy Spirit. We must always listen to the right voices

There are many voices and opinions that we can listen to. We must always listen to the right voices when making decisions in our life

Godly mentors who hear from God can give us great counsel and wisdom to help us to make right choices in life

However the opinions of others that are not based on godly wisdom OR God’s perspective can cause us to make many poor choices in life that can pull us away from God’s destiny for our life

In a world full of deception how important it is that we always heed the guidance and direction of the Holy Spirit in our lives. THIS IS A GREAT KEY TO CONTINUALLY REMAINING IN THE WILL OF GOD FOR OUR LIVES

Jesus Himself said, “However, when He, the Spirit of truth, has come, He will guide you into all truth; for He will not speak on His own authority, but whatever He hears He will speak; and He will tell you things to come.” (John 16:13)

In the book of Jeremiah we read,

“For who has stood in the counsel of the LORD, And has perceived and heard His word? Who has marked His word and heard it?” (Jeremiah 23:18)

5) That we continually operate in our area of gifting and calling

We are the greatest blessing to others and the most fulfilled in life when we flow in our own unique gifts and calling

This is why we need to prayerfully seek God to always know what to say YES to and what to say NO to

God gives us all the time that we need to do those things that He has called us to do in life

Especially for those in the workforce it is important that you invest your time in the right ministry opportunities where you can flow in your own unique gifts and calling

Jesus Himself said, “My food is to do the will of Him who sent Me, and to finish His work.” **(John 4:34)**

The Apostle Paul wrote,

“Having then gifts differing according to the grace that is given to us, let us use them: If prophecy, let us prophesy in proportion to our faith; or ministry, let us use it in our ministering; he who teaches, in teaching; he who exhorts, in exhortation; he who gives, with liberality; he who leads, with diligence; he who shows mercy, with cheerfulness. **(Romans 12:6-8)**

6) The importance of prayerfully making plans

Once we know what God is calling us to do we need to then make plans and commitments to see those things coming to pass

The Devil is good at sidetracking and distracting people from doing those things that God has called them to do

Making plans and commitments is a great key to living a FOCUSED and productive Christian life

In the book of Proverbs we read,

“The plans of the diligent lead surely to plenty, but those of everyone who is hasty, surely to poverty.” **(Proverbs 21:5)**

7) We need to be careful to avoid time wasters

The simple fact is that we need to have good boundaries when it comes to time management

The simple fact is that we only have a certain number of days to live and each day once lost can never be regained. For this reason we cannot spend unnecessary time in idle chatter with others so that we are pulled away from fulfilling God's plan for our life.

It is so important that we ALWAYS use our time wisely.

We must also be careful that we do not spend time trying to help people that have no real desire to help themselves and which causes us to not do those things that God has put on our heart to do.

Moses in Psalm 90 wrote,

“So teach us to number our days, That we may gain a heart of wisdom.” (Psalm 90:12)

8) The importance of starting each day off by seeking God for His perspective for our day

This is a great key to making the most of each day of our lives.

When we seek God for His guidance for the day, things run more smoothly and we find that we are more likely to be consistently at the right place at the right time.

In the book Proverbs we read, “Commit your works to the Lord, and your thoughts will be established.” (Proverbs 16:3)

Jesus Himself also said,

“If anyone desires to come after Me, let him deny himself, and take up his cross daily, and follow Me. For whoever desires to save his life will lose it, but whoever loses his life for My sake will save it.”
(Luke 9:23-24)

AND VERY QUICKLY

9) STEPPING BACK FROM TIME TO TIME TO LOOK AT THE BIGGER PICTURE OF WHAT WE ARE DOING

- Are there things which I should no longer be doing
- Are there things which I should be doing but am not doing
- Fine tuning our vision as we prayerfully spend time with God reassessing what we are currently doing in life and what He has called us to do in this season of our life

10) The importance of living a life of ongoing trust and obedience (Just doing what Jesus tells us to do)

In the book of Isaiah we read,

“If you are willing and obedient, You shall eat the good of the land.” (Isaiah 1:19)

In the book of Jeremiah we read,

“Blessed is the man who trusts in the Lord, And whose hope is the Lord. For he shall be like a tree planted by the waters, Which spreads out its roots by the river, And will not fear when heat comes; But its leaf will be green, And will not be anxious in the year of drought, Nor will cease from yielding fruit.” **(Jeremiah 17:7-8)**

King David wrote,

“Trust in the Lord, and do good; Dwell in the land, and feed on His faithfulness. **Delight yourself also in the Lord,** And He shall give you the desires of your heart. Commit your way to the Lord, Trust also in Him, And He shall bring it to pass.” **(Psalm 37:3-5)**

11) Refusing to allow the cares of this world to take our focus of the eternal things as we learn to commit all of our problems to the Lord in prayer,

The Apostle Paul wrote,

“If then you were raised with Christ, seek those things which are above, where Christ is, sitting at the right hand of God. Set your mind on things above, not on things on the earth.” **(Colossians 3:1-2)**

The Apostle Peter wrote,

“casting all your care upon Him, for He cares for you.”
(1 Peter 5:7)

The Apostle Paul also wrote,

“Be anxious for nothing, but in everything by prayer and supplication, with thanksgiving, let your requests be made known to God; and the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and minds through Christ Jesus.”
(Philippians 4:6-7)

IT IS SO IMPORTANT THAT WE CONTINUALLY KEEP OUR FOCUS ON GOD'S PROMISES IN HIS WORD AND NOT ON OUR PROBLEMS

The Apostle Paul wrote,

“For all the promises of God in Him are Yes, and in Him Amen, to the glory of God through us.” (2 Corinthians 1:20)

IF WE CONTINUALLY KEEP OUR FOCUS ON THE BIGNESS OF OUR GOD WE CAN CONTINUALLY HAVE PEACE EVEN IN THE TROUBLING TIMES THAT WE ARE NOW LIVING IN

In the book of Isaiah we read,

“You will keep him in perfect peace, whose mind is stayed on You, because he trusts in You. Trust in the LORD forever, For in YAH, the LORD, is everlasting strength.” (Isaiah 26:3-4)

AS CHRSTIANS WE CAN BE ASSURED THAT IF WE SIMPLY FOLLOW GOD'S PLAN FOR OUR LIFE WE DO NOT HAVE TO BE CONCERNED ABOUT THE EVERYDAY THINGS OF LIFE

God promises to meet our every need in life when we put Christ and the things of the Kingdom first in our life

Jesus Himself made this very clear when He said,

“Therefore do not worry, saying, ‘What shall we eat?’ Or ‘What shall we drink?’ or ‘What shall we wear?’ For after all these things the Gentiles seek. For your heavenly Father knows that you need all these things. But seek first the kingdom of God and His righteousness, and all these things shall be added to you.” (**Matthew 6:31-33**)

And

12) The importance of winning souls to Christ. Given the times that we are now living in this must be always a key focus in our Christian walk

In the book of Proverbs we read,

“Deliver those who are drawn toward death, and hold back those stumbling to the slaughter. If you say, “Surely we did not know this,” does not He who weighs the hearts consider it? He who keeps your soul, does He not know it? And will He not render to each man according to his deeds?” (**Proverbs 24:11-12**)

“The fruit of the righteous is a tree of life, And he who wins souls is wise.” (**Proverbs 11:30**)