

What Every Healthy Christian Prioritizes

The Biblically Unique Church: The Church Being Light and Salt in Priorities Chris Mueller 5-29-22

Introduction:

Struggles with priorities happen because

1. of earthly priorities
2. they love this world
3. they have not been taught or modeled

...but some are progressing toward priorities

Most spend too much time on what is most urgent and not enough time on what is most important.

#1 To _____ to a plurality of elders

Hebrews 13:17 Obey your **leaders** and submit to them, for they keep watch over your souls as those who will give an account. Let them do this with joy and not with grief, for this would be unprofitable for you.

1 Peter 5:1 ... I exhort the **elders** among you

Acts 20:28 Be on guard for yourselves and for all the flock, among which the Holy Spirit has made you **overseers**, to shepherd the church of God which He purchased with His own blood.

Titus 1:5 For this reason I left you in Crete, that you would set in order what remains and appoint **elders** in every city as I directed you,

Acts 14:23 When they had appointed **elders** for them in every church, having prayed with fasting, they commended them to the Lord in whom they had believed.

#2 To _____ to the body of believers

1 Corinthians 12:12 For even as the body is one and yet has many members, and all the members of the body, though they are many, are one body, so also is Christ.

Ephesians 4:15 ...Him who is the head, even Christ, **16** from whom the whole body, being fitted and held together by what every joint supplies, according to the proper working of each individual part, causes the growth of the body for the building up of itself in love.

Romans 12:10 Be devoted to one another; **Romans 15:7** accept one another; **Romans 15:14** admonish one another; **Galatians 5:13** serve one another; **Ephesians 4:32** Be kind to one another; **Philippians 2:3** regard one another as more important than yourselves; **1 Thessalonians 4:18** comfort one another; **Hebrews 3:13** encourage one another; **1 John 4:7** love one another

Your priorities aren't what you say they are; they are revealed by how you live.

#3 To faithfully _____ by finding and developing your giftedness

A spiritual gift is a God-given ability for service within the body.

1 Corinthians 12:1 concerning spiritual gifts, brethren, I do not want you to be unaware. **7**...to each one is given the manifestation of the Spirit for the common good.

Romans 12:6 Since we have gifts that differ according to the grace given to us, each of us is to exercise them accordingly: if prophecy, according to the proportion of his faith;

1 Peter 4:10 As each one has received a special gift, employ it in serving one another as good stewards of the manifold grace of God. **11** Whoever speaks, is to do so as one who is speaking the utterances of God; whoever serves is to do so as one who is serving by the strength which God supplies; so that in all things God may be glorified through Jesus Christ, to whom belongs the glory and dominion forever and ever. Amen.

#4 To sacrificially _____ of your resources

1 Corinthians 16:1 Now concerning the collection for the saints, as I directed the churches of Galatia, so do you also. **2** On the first day of every week each one of you is to put aside and save, as he may prosper, so that no collections be made when I come.

2 Corinthians 9:6 Now this I say, he who sows sparingly will also reap sparingly, and he who sows bountifully will also reap bountifully. **7** Each one must do just as he has purposed in his heart, not grudgingly or under compulsion, for God loves a cheerful giver.

#5 To intentionally engage in _____ for the purpose of growth

Matthew 28:19 Go therefore and make disciples of all the nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and the Son and the Holy Spirit, **20** teaching them to observe all that I commanded you; and lo, I am with you always, even to the end of the age."

Discipleship is intentional relationships for the purpose of the gospel and growth.

Titus 2:3 Older women (**are to be**) teaching what is good, **4** so that they may encourage the young women to love their husbands, to love their children

1 Peter 5:5 You younger men, ...be subject to your elders

#6 To aggressively run to the finish line of _____ in Christ

Colossians 1:28 We proclaim Him, admonishing every man and teaching every man with all wisdom, so that we may present every man complete in Christ.

TAKE HOME:

- A. Each of these priorities _____ some truths about you
- B. Treat every priority as _____, not average
- C. Develop a passion for spiritual _____
To be used of God to make as many people like Jesus Christ in the shortest time possible.
- D. Everyone is in process, but get on with God's heart _____
If it is important to you, the Lord will find a way for you. If it is not important to you, you will find an excuse.

Questions for Growth in Christ

1. What do the unsaved people of this world think when they are asked about the true Church of Christ?
2. What do make-believers and untaught believers think about their commitment to the Church?
3. Why is it that so few Christians in churches actually fulfill their responsibilities and priorities in a local church?
4. Which of the priorities discussed today are not present or barely evident in your life and why?
5. What steps do you need to take to see these priorities lived out in your life this week and in coming months?
6. Are you passionate about growing complete in Christ? What will you do to become that man or woman of God?

