

Life Verses

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I. Introduction.

- A. Life verses are verses that we go back often for guidance and assurance.
- B. Usually God gives you these verses as you study- you don't go in search of them.
- C. The three life verses that Jerry has have themes running through them.
- D. This message is meant to build bridges between the administrative staff of the Navigators and the Navigators field staff.
- E. The principles that are in these verses are the Word of God and contain eternal truths.

II. The motivation for the ministry and the sacrifice it implies is God's worthiness. (Revelation 4:11)

III. The attitude toward the ministry that we need to display is that we are there because of God's grace. (Ephesians 3:8)

- A. It is God's grace that we are in the ministry- we do not deserve it, we are not doing God a favor, and He does not need us.
- B. It is our privilege to be in ministry with Christ. (2 Corinthians 4:1; Isaiah 43:4; John 12:24)
- C. God's sovereign grace should keep us from comparing our ministry or our role in the kingdom to others'. (Romans 9:21; Matthew 20:15)
- D. Grace will keep us humble. (Isaiah 41:14-15)
- E. Grace will encourage us.

IV. The direction in the ministry needs to come from the study, practice, and teaching of God's Word. (Ezra 7:10)

- A. Disciple-makers are first teachers of the Word of God. (Matthew 28:19-20)
 - 1. Before we can teach, we must study the Word of God. We must be continuous students.
 - 2. After we study, we must practice the Word of God. (Titus 1:1; 1 Corinthians 8:1)
- B. Then we can teach, but we need to know that we will be judged more strictly than others. (James 3:1; 1 Peter 4:11)

Application questions:

1. Either formally or informally, many Christians are teaching someone the Word of God. How can we make sure that what we teach is true and honors God?

2. Are you tempted to compare your role in God's ministry with someone else's? In those moments, how can an experience of God's grace correct your heart?

3. Are there verses that have been meaningful in your life that you find yourself going back to often? Take the time to memorize them and meditate on them.
