

Priorities and Use of Time

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I. Introduction.

- A. The prayer for older people.
- B. Among the prerequisites for being filled with the Spirit is redeeming the time. (Ephesians 5)
- C. There is a sense that time is our only resource.

II. The man whose priorities were straight.

- A. There was enough time to do the whole will of God for a given day.
- B. Interruptions did not disturb the day, every person was important, etc.

III. Principles of straight priorities.

- A. Do one thing at a time.
- B. Make a daily plan.
- C. Forget other plans until you finish the first.
- D. Set priorities.
 - 1. Proximity and noise should not set priorities.
 - 2. There is an order of importance here.

IV. The system.

- A. Everyone uses a priority system every day, but if it is deliberate one can be more efficient.
- B. Organizing the day into three periods: projects, routine and the unplanned.
 - 1. The projects are the most important. If the other two are interfering then it is wise to disappear, so these can get finished.
 - 2. These are also separated into priorities concerning family, work and ministry.
- C. Building a team is a challenging thing to do, but if it is a priority it can be done for multiplication.

V. Manager's span of control.

A. The more people there are directly under a manager, the greater deterioration of efficiency there is.

B. A too large span of control is impossible in human relations.

1. Leadership is accomplishing objectives through other people.

2. But the people that one can accomplish objectives through directly are naturally limited.

VI. Three main ideas.

A. There is enough time to accomplish God's priorities in a day.

B. Some priorities are more important than others.

C. One does not have the ability to deal with an unlimited amount of people every day. People need to be organized under others.

VII. Discussion.

A. Order of priorities: relationship with God, family, work. They are individual areas but also interlocking at the same time.

B. Exodus illustrates delegating in what God did to Moses in the desert with his responsibilities.

Application questions.

A. What were the speaker's three main ideas? How did he illustrate these throughout the message?

B. Why is prioritizing a day so important? Do your current values have any reflection on how your day is prioritized?

C. What will you do to realign your day better to reflect God's priorities for you? How will this look?
