

WHAT MATTERS THE MOST: Seeking God and Moving Forward

Text: Psalm 27:4,



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Life is filled with

- Busy Schedules
- Many tasks
- Many Challenges

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- In the quest for answers to life challenges, we often found ourselves asking:
What should I do next?
- Amidst business with many tasks and in facing many challenges
- What matters the MOST:

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Prioritizing our Spiritual Journey requires

- Placing devotion before direction
- Placing meaning before movement

Reason:

When our focuses misplaced, our best efforts can become sources of stress.

So, what matters the Most?

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I. Seeking God's Presence

Psalm 27:4

One thing I ask from the LORD,
this only do I seek:
that I may dwell in the house of the LORD
all the days of my life,
to gaze on the beauty of the LORD
and to seek him in his temple.

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A Yearning for Intimacy

- David, amid busy schedule, with many tasks, and life challenges:
- Yearns for God's presence
- Yearns for dwelling in the house of the Lord
- Yearns for seeking God's face
- Yearns for nurturing personal Intimacy with the Lord above all else.

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Theological Truth

- True spiritual vitality comes from a continuous connection with God rather than from our accomplishments or busy activities.
- Profound truth is that our relationship with God is the foundation of our Faith, which guides us to experience His divine presence in our life.

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Application

- Deeper intimacy fuels spiritual growth and consistency in walk with the Lord.
- God's presence protects us, empowers us and leads us into a meaningful life.
- We finds a satisfaction in the presence of God.

8

II. Choosing Devotion over Distraction

Luke 10:38-41

38 As Jesus and his disciples were on their way, he came to a village where a woman named Martha opened her home to him.

39 She had a sister called Mary, who sat at the Lord's feet listening to what he said.

40 But Martha was distracted by all the preparations that had to be made. She came to him and asked, "Lord, don't you care that my sister has left me to do the work by myself? Tell her to help me!"

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41 "Martha, Martha," the Lord answered, "you are worried and upset about many things,

42 but few things are needed—or indeed only one. Mary has chosen what is better, and it will not be taken away from her."

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Martha Versus Mary: What Priority Matters the Most

Martha's focus on task led to:

- Anxiety,
- Distraction,
- Comparison
- Complain

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Mary's attention to Jesus' Teaching led to:

- Singular focus over anxieties
- Devotion over distraction
- Relationship over complain
- Listening to Jesus' word over doing many things.

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Mark 4:18-19

18 Still others, like seed sown among thorns, hear the word; **19** but the worries of this life, the deceitfulness of wealth and the desires for other things come in and choke the word, making it unfruitful.

13

Jesus Corrects Misplaced Priorities

Jesus acknowledges Martha's service, but highlights that true fulfilment comes from

- Focusing on Him
- Setting in under His feet (Presence)
- Listening to His divine Word.

Jesus calls us to examine our priorities and choose what matters the most.

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Contrast between Martha and Mary

- **Martha: Burdened by Business**

Martha welcomed Jesus into her home but became overwhelmed by many tasks at hand. Her focus on serving led to anxiety and distraction, causing her to miss the opportunity for deeper connection with Jesus. Martha exemplifies how good intention can become burdensome when priorities are misplaced.

15

Mary: Relationship over Routine

- Mary, on the other hand choose, to sit at Jesus' feet, prioritizing deeper relationship over routine. Her stillness and attentiveness, allowed her to fully engage with the Lord, demonstrating the importance of devotion and intimacy.
- Mary represents the heart of true worship and relationship with the Lord.

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Application

- Business obscures Christ's Voice
- Anxiety signals divided priorities
- Intimacy represents true worship

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III. Moving Forward with a Purpose **Philippians 3:13-14**

13 Brothers and sisters, I do not consider myself yet to have taken hold of it. But **one thing I do**: Forgetting what is behind and straining toward what is ahead,

14 I press on toward the goal to win the prize for which God has called me heavenward in Christ Jesus.

18

Leave the Past Behind

- Apostle Paul emphasizes the importance of leaving behind past failures, guilt, and even successes to fully embrace the future God has planned for us.
- By forgetting what is behind, we can focus on God's plan and pursue it with vigor and truthfulness.

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Theological Truth

- In Philippians 3:13-14, Apostle Paul emphasizes the necessity of pursuing God's calling and plan with determination and clarity.
- He encourages believers in Christ to leave behind past failures and successes, focusing instead on the heavenly prize which is found in Christ Jesus.

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Application

- Past failures do not limit God's plan for us.
- Our success should fuel to bear testimony of God and should lead to pursue God's plan.
- Our Faith should drive forward and progressive action for the glory of God.

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Final Exhortation

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Let us Seek God's Presence Daily

- Make it a priority to connect with God in prayer and worship and meditation on His Word everyday.

23

Choose Devotion over Distraction

- Let us recognize that anxiety often arises from misplaced priorities.
- By focusing on our relationship with God, we can find peace and clarity amidst life's challenges.

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Let go of the Past

- Let us confess and release any guilt or regret from the past mistakes.
- Let us trust in God's grace and goodness and let Him transform our life and lead us to focus on Him and move forward with faith and action.

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