



Part One: Re-tool Your Schedule!

Icebreaker: Share a time when you were late for something important.

“But seek first his kingdom and his righteousness, and all these things will be given to you as well.”
Matthew 6:33

- 1.) What would it look like to “seek **FIRST** His kingdom and His righteousness” first thing every morning? First thing every week? First thing in every major decision? What keeps you from doing so?
- 2.) Busy-ness is a common American struggle, how do you think seeking God first could help you with busy-ness? Or, how has seeking God first helped you to deal with busy-ness in the past?

Jesus replied: " 'Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind.' This is the first and greatest commandment. And the second is like it: 'Love your neighbor as yourself.'
Matthew 22:37-39

- 3.) How have you let people or activities crowd God out of your life?
- 4.) When was a time when your priorities in “Loving your neighbor” got mixed up? (i.e. children crowding out your spouse, others crowding out your family, work/school crowding out your church family...)

Please take a few minutes to look over at ‘The Grid’ on the back of this page.

- 5.) Which of these areas do you tend to overlook or ignore when making priorities in your schedule?

Prayer: Share one action you need to take in order to ‘re-tool your schedule’ so that your schedule reflects God’s priorities in your life.

Pray for each other to take these actions this week.

'THE GRID'

Use these principles to help you evaluate and sort out the potential jobs, projects, activities and commitments in order to make the most of your time.

- 1.) **The Whole-heartedness Principle: Whatever you do, do it wholeheartedly & to the best of your ability. If you can't do a good job on it, don't take it on.**

Check out these verses: Eccl. 9:10, Col. 3:17, Col. 3:23, Pr. 22:29

- 2.) **The Work Day Principle: Work had during the 'day', but not during the 'night.' Take time to relax and wind down after you work. (Obviously if you work nights, this reverses!)**

Check out these verses: John 9:4, John 11:9, Ps. 127:2

- 3.) **The Sabbath Principle: This is one of the Ten Commandments! God has designed us to function optimally when we take a day of rest & reflection each week. This day is primarily to remember God and grow in Him.**

Check out these verses: Ex. 20:8-11

- 4.) **The 'Finishing' Principle: Finish a project or task today if at all possible, or else things will pile up quickly.**

Check out this verse: Ruth 3:18

- 5.) **The People Principle - Always put people before projects/things. Things don't last, but people do. Christ modeled this by putting people before everything else!**

Check out this verse: John 3:16, 1 John 3:16

- 6.) **The Accountability/Submission Principle - Sometimes we need someone else to guide or counsel us in making decisions and setting priorities.**

Check out this verse: Eph. 5:21

- 7.) **The Time & Eternity Principle – Before adding something to your schedule ask yourself: What will be the effect of this 10 years from now? What will be the effect of this for eternity? Does this have any long-lasting or eternal value?**

Check out this verse: 1 Cor. 3:12-15