

Jesus Sets Our Agenda

Sunday October 8, 2023
Series: Putting Jesus First

“See to it that no one takes you captive by philosophy and empty deceit, according to human tradition, according to the elemental spirits of the world, and not according to Christ.”
Colossians 2:8 ESV

“and not holding fast to the Head, from whom the whole body, nourished and knit together through its joints and ligaments, grows with a growth that is from God.”
Colossians 2:19 ESV

We Need to Work at Developing the Priorities of Our Ministry for Jesus!

Power of _____

“But Peter and the apostles answered, “We must obey God rather than men.” Acts 5:29 ESV

Definition: something that is very important and must be dealt with before other things:

(Cambridge Dictionary)

How Would You Measure a Priority?

- | | |
|----------|----------|
| 1. _____ | 1. _____ |
| 2. _____ | 2. _____ |
| 3. _____ | 3. _____ |

Four Priorities for Our Ministry

1. _____ God’s Truth!

Jesus’ Priority on Preaching

“From that time Jesus began to preach, saying, “Repent, for the kingdom of heaven is at hand.””
Matthew 4:17 ESV

(Also: Sermon on the Mount—Matthew 5:1-2, 7:28-29)

Church’s Priority on Preaching

“So those who received his word were baptized, and there were added that day about three thousand souls. And they devoted themselves to the apostles’ teaching and the fellowship, to the breaking of bread and the prayers.”
Acts 2:41–42 ESV

Paul’s Priority on Preaching

“For Christ did not send me to baptize but to preach the gospel, and not with words of eloquent wisdom, lest the cross of Christ be emptied of its power.”
1 Corinthians 1:17 ESV

(Also: 2 Timothy 4:1-2)

2. _____ at Prayer!

Jesus’ Persistence at Prayer

“And after he had dismissed the crowds, he went up on the mountain by himself to pray. When evening came, he was there alone,”
Matthew 14:23 ESV

Church's Persistence at Prayer

"When he realized this, he went to the house of Mary, the mother of John whose other name was Mark, where many were gathered together and were praying." Acts 12:12 ESV

Paul's Persistence at Prayer

"I do not cease to give thanks for you, remembering you in my prayers," Ephesians 1:16 ESV

3. _____ With Everyone!

Jesus Passionately Sharing

"From that time Jesus began to preach, saying, "Repent, for the kingdom of heaven is at hand."" Matthew 4:17 ESV

Church Passionately Sharing

"Now those who were scattered went about preaching the word." Acts 8:4 ESV

Paul Passionately Sharing

"Therefore, having this ministry by the mercy of God, we do not lose heart. But we have renounced disgraceful, underhanded ways. We refuse to practice cunning or to tamper with God's word, but by the open statement of the truth we would commend ourselves to everyone's conscience in the sight of God." 2 Corinthians 4:1-2 ESV

4. _____ Leadership!

Jesus Multiplying Leadership

"And he went up on the mountain and called to him those whom he desired, and they came to him. And he appointed twelve (whom he also named apostles) so that they might be with him and he might send them out to preach" Mark 3:13-14 ESV

Church Multiplying Leadership

"And the twelve summoned the full number of the disciples and said, "It is not right that we should give up preaching the word of God to serve tables. Therefore, brothers, pick out from among you seven men of good repute, full of the Spirit and of wisdom, whom we will appoint to this duty. But we will devote ourselves to prayer and to the ministry of the word." Acts 6:2-4 ESV

Paul Multiplying Leadership

"and what you have heard from me in the presence of many witnesses entrust to faithful men, who will be able to teach others also." 2 Timothy 2:2 ESV

We Need to Work at Developing the Priorities of Our Ministry for Jesus!

"holding fast to the Head, from whom the whole body, nourished and knit together through its joints and ligaments, grows with a growth that is from God." Colossians 2:19 ESV