

## **"FIRST THINGS FIRST!"**

**Matthew 6:33** - *But seek ye first the kingdom of God, and his righteousness; and all these things shall be added unto you.*



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*I remember when I began working and making my own money. My mother would often tell me, "Business before pleasure!" That meant take care of all of my bills and financial obligations "first" before I proceeded to waste my money on clothes and shoes. There were many times that I didn't take heed to what she was telling me and I had to ask to borrow money in between pay checks to take care of the things I should have handled first. Don't think she just freely opened up her purse and lavishly poured money into my hands without a forceful reminder. She'd say, "You've spent your money on the things you wanted, now you want to borrow money from me for the things you need." Well, I was young and immature and simply wanted what I wanted when I wanted it. But now that I have matured in years and had to raise my two children as a single mother, I quickly learned in that situation that a good bread winner goes without for the sake of the family and their well-being.*

*Put "first things first" in your spirituality, your finances, your health, your relationships, and your thinking! When you consistently set aside a specific time in the day "first" before you check email, Facebook and Twitter to spend with God in His word and in prayer, seeking His plan for your life this day, you will find that your day will go so much smoother. When you bring your tithes into the storehouse "first" before you go out and buy that new suit and new pair of shoes, then you will be able to try Him and witness the windows of Heaven opening up and pouring you out blessings you won't have room enough to receive. When you get the proper rest, eat nutritious foods and regularly exercise your body "first" before hanging out all night, indulging in junk food and then lying lifelessly on the couch day after day, God will be able to dwell in your temple because it will be holy, acceptable and fit for a King! When you learn to put others "first" in your relationships, it will be that much more fulfilling because the focus won't be on you but it will be on someone else and that love surely will be reciprocated! When you learn to think on things that are true, honest, just, pure, lovely, and of good report "first", you will then be able to experience perfect peace in the midst of confusion and disappointment!*

*Today I encourage you to put first things first in your spiritual life! Don't do whatever you want with your life and then have to crawl back to God for Him to fix the mess you made. The word of God tells us to seek ye first the Kingdom of God and His righteousness; and all these things will be added unto you. That means seek the things of God – His love, His peace, His joy, His will, His way, His grace, His mercy, His forgiveness, His blessing, His favor and His purpose and plan for your life! Build your hope on things eternal. For the earthly treasures will soon rust and vanish away. But the things of God are eternal in the Heaven! God is the same yesterday, today and forever more. His word will not change. So whatever He promised the seed of Abraham, He is still able to perform it today! (Proverbs 3:5-6) says, "Trust in the Lord with all thine heart; and lean not unto thine own understanding. In all thy ways acknowledge him, and he shall direct thy paths."*

*So when you put "first things first" and learn to seek God "first" in everything you do, your life will be much more the better because you have the hand of God leading and guiding you! He really does know what's best for you even though you think you have it all figured out and know exactly what you want and how to get it! What you want pales in comparison to the things of God He promised you. (1 Corinthians 2:9) – "But as it is written, Eye hath not seen, nor ear heard, neither have entered into the heart of man, the things which God hath prepared for them that love him." When you put "first things first" and seek God and all that is of God, your life will be richer! You have no idea how sweet your life can be even when you go through your test, trials and temptations. Knowing that God is with you and is able to see you through, will allow you to stand strong during your storm; but you must learn to put "First Things First!"*

**"Let Love Abound"**

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