

DISCIPLE MAKING

A PODCAST WITH DR. JOHN TOLSON

Episode 23: Thoughts on The Four Priorities

You and I are no more prepared for heaven than the moment Jesus comes into our lives. So why did he leave us here? In Matthew 28, he tells us why. He said, "Go therefore into all the world and make disciples [who make disciples who make disciples]." So, it's really not about me. It's not about you. It's about him, and what he wants to do in and through us.

Here are some thoughts on The Four Priorities that I think are very practical and make a difference in our everyday life.

1. God cares about how we live and what we do. God cares about how you live and what you do every day in your life.
2. Life is too short to get it wrong. So why not get it right? By getting it right I mean living according to his priorities.
3. God has a magnificent plan for your life and for my life. Read Jeremiah 29:11 and Isaiah 42:16.
4. Don't worry about becoming a religious fanatic. Some people don't want to get too serious about following Jesus and making disciples. All they want to do is go to church, put some money in the bucket, and then leave and live life the way they want to. In other words, it's all about self. A fanatic is a person who redoubles their efforts once they've lost sight of their goal. Don't worry about that. We're not even close to being that kind of a person.
5. Live on target. If you live by these four priorities you are living on target, biblically speaking.
6. In order to live by His four priorities, we must first decide and commit to what you are going to do, and then decide and commit to what you're not going to do. We've got to begin to think through how we live our daily lives. Take those four priorities and decide how you are going to live by them in the next 7 days. Your schedule will illustrate your priorities. Let these four biblical priorities shape your schedule and your life. They say it's hard by the yard, but inch by inch, one step at a time, one day at a time, one week at a time, we can make changes. We can begin to declutter our lives and live clean, sharp, focused lives guided by biblical priorities.

The Four Priorities helps us fight against a common danger in our culture. The danger is that we become respectable, decent, commonplace, mediocre Christians. So, will it be more TV? More

banana cream pie? More football? More channels? Or a focused, committed person living by God's four biblical priorities? What's it going to be for you?

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