

MSC 2009 Session 1

- The Main Thing -

Dave Patterson - The Father's House - Vacaville, CA

NOTES

John 8:28b-29 (NLT)

"I do nothing on my own but say only what the Father taught me. And the one who sent me is with me—he has not deserted me. For I always do what pleases him."

1. The main thing is _____.
(= unbroken fellowship, communion, constant connection, communication, confidence based in relationship)

2. The "Main Thing" requires a _____ life

Psalm 27:4 (Amplified Bible)

One thing have I asked of the Lord, that will I seek, inquire for, and [insistently] require: that I may dwell in the house of the Lord [in His presence] all the days of my life, to behold and gaze upon the beauty [the sweet attractiveness and the delightful loveliness] of the Lord and to meditate, consider, and inquire in His temple.

(The Message)

I'm asking GOD for one thing, only one thing: To live with him in his house my whole life long. I'll contemplate his beauty; I'll study at his feet.

3. The "Main thing" brings _____.

Psalm 73 – 1-4 & 11-17 (the Message)

No doubt about it! God is good— good to good people, good to the good-hearted. But I nearly missed it, missed seeing his goodness. I was looking the other way, looking up to the people at the top..., What's going on here? Is God out to lunch? Nobody's tending the store. The wicked get by with everything; they have it made, piling up riches. I've been stupid to play by the rules; what has it gotten me?

A long run of bad luck, that's what— a slap in the face every time I walk out the door. If I'd have given in and talked like this, I would have betrayed your dear children. Still, when I tried to figure it out, all I got was a splitting headache . . . Until I entered the sanctuary of God. Then I saw the whole picture...

Key Text: Acts 6:1-7

*In those days when the **number of disciples was increasing**, the Grecian Jews among them **complained** against the Hebraic Jews because their widows were being overlooked in the daily distribution of food.*

2 So the Twelve gathered all the disciples together and said, "It would not be right for us to neglect the ministry of the word of God in order to wait on tables.

3 Brothers, choose seven men from among you who are known to be full of the Spirit and wisdom. We will turn this responsibility over to them

4 and will give our attention to prayer and the ministry of the word."

5 This proposal pleased the whole group. They chose Stephen, a man full of faith and of the Holy Spirit; also Philip, Procorus, Nicanor, Timon, Parmenas, and Nicolas from Antioch, a convert to Judaism.

6 They presented these men to the apostles, who prayed and laid their hands on them.

7 So the word of God spread. The number of disciples in Jerusalem increased rapidly, and a large number of priests became obedient to the faith.

Vs 4.

(AMP) ... But we will continue to devote ourselves steadfastly”

“to prayer, and to the ministrations of the word, will give ourselves continually” (Young’s LT)

“But we ourselves will keep on talking with God and telling his word.” (WWENT)

NOTES

Give ourselves = To be constantly diligent, to attend industriously, unremittingly to the exercise

10 - Warning Signs of Lost Intimacy

1. _____ - **With people, projects, results and ministry in general.** When this is manifesting in our lives it is a sure sign that we have lost our peace which is the fruit of intimacy.

Isaiah 26:3 (Amplified Bible)

You will guard him and keep him in perfect and constant peace whose mind [both its inclination and its character] is stayed on You, because he commits himself to You, leans on You, and hopes confidently in You

2. _____. You are not really sure, so you feel like navigating the ministry decisions is an educated guess at best or you are simply imitating someone else's successful ministry in order to move forward.
3. **When you lack** _____. When we don't feel valued by God we live under condemnation.

Luke 3:22

and the Holy Spirit descended on him in bodily form like a dove. And a voice came from heaven: "You are my Son, whom I love; with you I am well pleased."

This is the need for Fatherly affirmation! **We need to know that we “did good”.**

4. **There is a persistent sense of** _____.
5. **When Relationships are** _____. They take more work, so you avoid cultivating new ones and fail to maintain those that exist.

6. **You increase in making** _____.
Activities, purchases, entertainment, investments, time spent.
7. **Struggle with bouts of** _____.
8. _____ **over even small decisions and direction.**
9. **A consistent and overbearing sense of** _____.
10. **Avoidance to being** _____. Constantly checking e-mails, texting, easily distracted, meditation and waiting is painful. We find ourselves doing “busy work” rushing through the day and trying to measure success by the level of activity.

How did this happen? (Root causes for lost intimacy)

1. So busy doing things for God that we _____ being with him and mentally (if not verbally) _____ it.
2. A _____ that has yet to be healed from past betrayals and negative ministry experiences.
3. Becoming _____ on corporate gatherings and other’s encounters for intimacy and revelation
4. When our _____ for pleasure is being satisfied somewhere else; medicating, entertaining and intentionally distracting ourselves from the pressure. (this is the absence of the “one thing” principle PS 27)
5. _____ = When compromise weakens our immune system to sin and we ignore subtle convictions.
6. Lack of _____.
7. We became deceived by the _____!

Galatians 4:6-7

Because you are sons, God sent the Spirit of his Son into our hearts, the Spirit who calls out, "Abba, Father."

So you are no longer a slave, but a son; and since you are a son, God has made you also an heir.

NOTES

Answer Key:

The Main Thing: 1. Intimacy 2. Focused 3. Understanding 10 Warning

Signs: 1. Easily frustrated 2. Cloudy vision 3. Confidence 4. Loneliness

5. Shallow 6. Shallow choices 7. Depression 8. Confusion 9. Doubt 10. Still

Root Causes: 1. Neglect, justify 2. Wounded heart 3. Dependent

4. Appetite 5. Insensitivity 6. Brokenness 7. results