

Setting Right Distorted Priorities Matthew 6: 33-34

**Russell Cook
West End Church of Christ
Knoxville, TN**

1. In our endeavor to get what we can out of life, we can inadvertently get our priorities mixed up. It's difficult for many to keep their priorities in order. We struggle to determine what is major and minor in life without some clear direction from God.
2. Jesus, in His Sermon on the Mount, talks about priorities, putting first things first, the setting right of distorted priorities. Let's see what He has to say.

I. Jesus Notes That Material Things Are Not Everything. (Matt. 6: 25-27)

- A Jesus is interested in your life and my life. He is concerned about what you and I eat and drink. Your body is important to Him.
 1. How many of us have put our faith in something material, only to be disappointed by its performance.
- B Not only can material objects change in value, but concern can become worthless.
 1. There are matters of importance that we take for granted.

II. Jesus Sets Straight Distorted Priorities. (Matt. 6: 33)

- A Just suppose, this week, you are told that you have six weeks to three months to live. How would you rearrange your priorities?
 1. Jesus sets straight distorted priorities.
- B It is so easy to concentrate on what we will eat, what we will drink, where we will live, and what we will wear.
 1. Jesus is calling you to be a citizen of a higher kingdom than of this world.

III. Jesus Encourages You Not To Worry. (Matt. 6: 34)

- A Although Jesus never promised us affluence, He really is taking a hard look at the futility of worrying.
 1. Jesus substantiates what He is trying to say with several illustrations.
- B Four principles for winning over worry.

IV. Jesus Says To Live One Day At A Time. (Matt. 6: 34)

- A The remedy to worry is concentrating on the kingdom of God and doing His will.
 1. Let God's concerns be your concerns and let your concerns be His concerns.
- B What do you do with your time?
 1. I hope you take time for self-reflection and prayer.
 2. Check out your life to see if you are really seeking first the kingdom of God and His righteousness.
 3. Jesus calls us to live as if today is all we have left. And that in itself does the prioritizing.