

WHAT REALLY MATTERS

- we race thru life, and everybody is busy, busy, busy
- rarely do we stop and think about the things that are really important

- in fact, we live in a time when the world has lost the concept of what is really important

- as we approach different seasons in our lives, we often ask - where did all the time go

- we should be asking some serious questions like

- what does success look like
- what is a life well-lived
- where am I headed
- what are the really important things of life

- we are in a section of Luke where we are looking at 8 principles of things that are worthy of serious consideration

1. (18-20) A PERSONAL RELATIONSHIP WITH CHRIST

- Jesus is in the area of Caesera Philippi

- show video =

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=l578RkGiwKA>

- there are many opinions about Christ
- the only opinion that matters is yours - it has eternal implications

2. (21-22, 43-45) THE DEATH AND RESURRECTION OF CHRIST

- this revelation came after the disciples had confessed that Jesus was the Christ

3. (23-26) GETTING THE RIGHT PERSPECTIVE

- it all begins with desire here
- do you really want to be a follower of Jesus

- deny yourself
- take up your cross daily
- follow Jesus

- the more you let go of yourself, the happier you will be

4. (27-36) THERE IS A FUTURE GLORY

- notice that Jesus went to the mountain to pray

- Luke often emphasizes the prayer life of Jesus

- Jesus was transfigured

- perhaps this is the same "clothing" that Adam and Eve had in the Garden

- the fact that Moses and Elijah are there with Jesus shows that God is the God of the living

- what will be the outcome of your appearance before God after you die?

- notice the exhortation to "hear Jesus"

5. (37-42) KEEP THE MAIN THING THE MAIN THING

- as soon as they came down from the mountain-top experience with Jesus, they were confronted with the cruel realities of life

- it is so easy to get distracted, isn't it?
 - we all have an enemy of our soul who would like nothing more than to get us away from Jesus

-why couldn't the disciples cast out the demon when Jesus had given them the power and authority back in v. 1

- another gospel says - this does not happen apart from prayer and fasting

- the point here = you can't live off of the high of yesterday's victories - you must keep your relationship with Christ fresh and new every day (see v. 41)

6. (46-48) THE PATH TO GREATNESS

- this discussion comes after the failure of the disciples to cast out the demon
 - what is it that compels us to compare ourselves with everybody else to see how we measure up
 - notice that Jesus was aware of what they thinking about
 - Jesus uses a child to illustrate what He is about to teach these guys
 - You can tell a lot about a person by how they treat the children in the room. Some people feel that children are nothing but trouble.
 - where does greatness come from, and what is the path to greatness
 - greatness comes from humility and being a servant
 - Jesus used words like last, least, lowest, servant, slave
 - when it comes to serving people, folks usually fall into one of four areas
 1. I am not doing anything - somebody else can do it
 2. What's in it for me if I give up my time and energy to serve somebody else
 3. I might help if I am asked to
 4. I will look for any opportunity to serve without being asked
 - speak about attitude while serving
- 7. (49-56) DON'T BE SO QUICK TO JUDGE**
- John answered . . . what was the question
 - It's like John just changes the subject as Jesus was talking about greatness and being the least
 - two stories that make the same point

- sometimes we get jealous when people do things differently than we do

- we can get so nitpicky about the differences between us that unbelievers don't have a clue as to who this Jesus is we claim to follow.

- Remember, Jesus said in [John 13:35](#) – By this all will know that you are My disciples, if you have love for one another.”

- sometimes we get mad when sinners act like sinners

8. [\(57-62\)](#) BE ALL IN

- emotion of the moment =

- Jesus responds simply = follow me

- I will be totally committed to You after . . .

- Jesus responds - Get busy now

- You will never mover forward if you are constantly looking back

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May 7, 2023