

DETERMINE YOUR PRIORITIES

Design Your Best Life: Week 2

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Matthew 22:34–39 (NLT)

³⁴ But when the Pharisees heard that he had silenced the Sadducees with his reply, they met together to question him again. ³⁵ One of them, an expert in religious law, tried to trap him with this question: ³⁶ “Teacher, which is the most important commandment in the law of Moses?”

³⁷ Jesus replied, “‘You must love the LORD your God with all your heart, all your soul, and all your mind.’ ³⁸ This is the first and greatest commandment. ³⁹ A second is equally important: ‘Love your neighbor as yourself.’

As a Christian, my highest priorities in life are to:

LOVE GOD and LOVE PEOPLE!

I love GOD by:

1. DEVOTING daily.

“Give us today the food we need,” (Matthew 6:11, NLT)

2. WORSHIPING weekly.

“They joined with the other believers in regular attendance at the apostles’ teaching sessions and at the Communion services and prayer meetings.” (Acts 2:42, The Living Bible)

3. GATHERING consistently.

“Some people have gotten out of the HABIT of meeting...but we must not do that. We should keep on encouraging each other, especially since you know that the day of the Lord’s coming is getting closer.” (Hebrews 10:25, CEV)

4. SERVING selflessly.

“You, my brothers and sisters, were called to be free. But do not use your freedom to indulge [your own desires]; rather, serve one another humbly in love.” (Galatians 5:13, NIV)

5. GIVING generously.

“...God loves a person who gives cheerfully. And God will generously provide all you need. Then you will always have everything you need and plenty left over to share with others. As the Scriptures say, “They share freely and give generously to the poor. Their good deeds will be remembered forever.”” (2 Corinthians 9:7–9, NLT)

6. **SHARING** boldly.

“For I am not ashamed of the gospel, because it is the power of God that brings salvation to everyone who believes...” (Romans 1:16, NIV)

I love PEOPLE by:

The Good Samaritan (Neighbor)

1. Giving my **ATTENTION**.

...when he saw the man...

“You know the saying, ‘Four months between planting and harvest.’ But I say, wake up and look around. The fields are already ripe for harvest.” (John 4:35, NLT)

2. Giving my **COMPASSION**.

...he felt compassion for him.

“The person who doesn’t love doesn’t know God, because God is love.” (1 John 4:8, GW)

3. Giving my **TIME**.

...he took care of him.

“Leaving that region, they traveled through Galilee. Jesus didn’t want anyone to know he was there, for he wanted to spend more time with his disciples and teach them. He said to them, “The Son of Man is going to be betrayed into the hands of his enemies. He will be killed, but three days later he will rise from the dead.”” (Mark 9:30–31, NLT)

4. Giving my **RESOURCES**.

The next day he handed the innkeeper two silver coins, telling him, ‘Take care of this man. If his bill runs higher than this, I’ll pay you the next time I’m here.’

“Let us stop just saying we love people; let us really love them, and show it by our actions.” (1 John 3:18, The Living Bible)

ACTION STEP

Write out your priorities.