



HOW DO WE KEEP THE MAIN THING, THE MAIN THING?

Faith Promise 2023
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Jesus at age 12: I MUST be about my father's business. (Luke 2:49 NKJV)

Jesus in Gethsemane: *I brought glory to you on earth. I have FINISHED the work you gave me to do.* (John 17:4 NIV/GN)

Paul: *I consider my life worth nothing to me, if only I may complete the race and FINISH THE TASK that the Lord Jesus has given me -- the task of testifying to the gospel of God's grace.* (Acts 20:24 NIV)

The end of Paul's life: *I have fought the good fight, I HAVE FINISHED the race, and I have kept the faith.* (2 Timothy 4:7 NIV)

HOW DO WE KEEP THE MAIN THING, THE MAIN THING?

(The key to OVCN's continuous growth)

1. WE MUST ADOPT GOD'S AGENDA.

GOD'S AGENDA FOR THIS WORLD:

- **God wants His lost children found!**

The Good News about the Kingdom will be preached throughout the whole world, so that all nations will hear it; and then the end will come. (Matthew 24:14 NLT)

The Lord is not wanting ANYONE to perish, but he wants EVERYONE to come to repentance. (2 Peter 3:9 NIV)

With your blood you purchased men for God from every tribe and every language and every people and every nation! (Revelation 5:9 NIV)

- **IS THIS YOUR AGENDA?**

2. WE MUST ABANDON ALL DISTRACTIONS.

...do whatever will help you serve the Lord best, with as few **distractions** as possible. (1 Corinthians 7:35 NLT)

SEEK FIRST the kingdom of God. (Matthew 6:33 ESV)

Pray like this... May YOUR Kingdom come, may YOUR will be done, on earth, just as it is in heaven. (Matthew 6:10 NLT)

You will receive power when the Holy Spirit comes on you; and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem, **AND** in all Judea, **AND** Samaria, **AND** to the ends of the earth. (Acts 1:8 NIV)

AND not THEN! Our efforts must be simultaneous, not sequential!

Anyone who lets himself be **distracted** from the work I plan for him is not fit for the Kingdom of God. (Luke 9:62 LB)

We should remove from our lives anything that would get in the way and the sin that so easily holds us back. (Hebrews 12:1 NCV)

3. WE MUST APPROPRIATE GOD'S POWER.

God will give you all you need from day to day IF you live for him and make the Kingdom of God your primary concern. (Matthew 6:33 NLT)

The eyes of the Lord search back and forth across the whole earth, looking for people whose hearts are perfect toward him, so that he can show his great power in helping them. (2 Chronicles 16:9 LB)