

First - Part 1 - The Order Matters Mark Rouse - mark@epicchurchbuffalo.com January 1, 2017

They will have no fear of bad news; their hearts are steadfast, trusting in the Lord. – Psalm 112:7

How would you describe your spiritual life in 2016?

- ✓ Spiritually <u>APATHETIC</u>.
- ✓ Spiritually <u>INCONSISTENT.</u>
- ✓ Spiritually <u>PASSIONATE</u>.

But seek first his kingdom and his righteousness, and all these things will be given to you as well. – Matthew 6:33

THE GOD-FIRST LIFE

1) First of the day: <u>SEEK GOD</u>.

Search for the Lord and for his strength; continually seek him.
- 1 Chronicles 16:11

Very early in the morning, while it was still dark, Jesus got up, left the house and went off to a solitary place, where he prayed.

- Mark 1:35

2) First of the week: WORSHIP.

And let us not neglect our meeting together, as some people do, but encourage one another, especially now that the day of his return is drawing near. – Hebrews 10:25

3) First of the month: PUT GOD FIRST IN MY FINANCES.

A tithe of everything from the land, whether grain from the soil or fruit from the trees, belongs to the Lord; it is holy to the Lord.

- Leviticus 27:30

You should tithe, yes, but do not neglect the more important things. – Matthew 23:23

Each of you should give what you have decided in your heart to give, not reluctantly or under compulsion, for God loves a cheerful giver. – 2 Corinthians 9:7

4) First of the year: PRAY & FAST.

But when you fast, put oil on your head and wash your face, **18** so that it will not be obvious to others that you are fasting, but only to your Father, who is unseen; and your Father, who sees what is done in secret, will reward you. – Matthew 6:17-18

✓ What's your <u>ONE</u> word for 2017?

"The Lord bless you and keep you; **25** the Lord make his face shine on you and be gracious to you; **26** the Lord turn his face toward you and give you peace." – Numbers 6:24-26