



Sermon Series: Seek, Serve, Send

Purpose: To prioritize what matters most, reorient ourselves toward others, and live out God's mission.

Today's Sermon: First Things First

Scripture Text: Matthew 6:1–33

Matthew 6:33 (NKJV), “But seek first the kingdom of God and His righteousness, and all these things shall be added to you.”

Truth for Today:

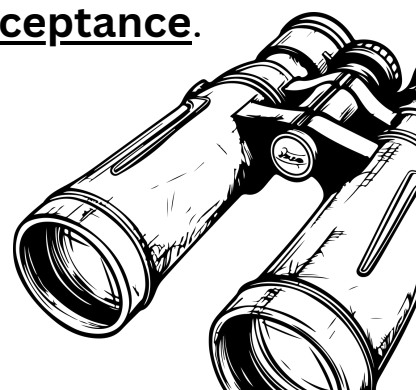
- What we **put** first determines what **follows**.
- What you place first determines what has **authority** in your life.
- What you seek **shapes** who you become.
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Bottom Line: When God is **first**, everything else finds its **proper** place.

1. Internal **devotion** matters more than external **validation**. (Matthew 6:1)

- Jesus warns us that we can be externally **impressive** but internally **misaligned**.
- Jesus invites us to seek God's **approval** over human **acceptance**.
- Jesus reminds us that God shapes us through **hidden** faithfulness, not outward **performance**.

Application: Choose one spiritual practice to do this week, with no one else knowing, simply to be with God.



2. What you seek **first** reveals what you trust **most**. (Matthew 6:25-32)

- Jesus names the things people seek most: **provision, security, the future.**
- Jesus does not **minimize** our needs. He **redefines** the order.
- Jesus says that before we ask God for **anything**, we surrender **everything**.

Application: Pay attention to what you run to first when you feel pressure, uncertainty, or need, and in that precise moment, turn to God and ask Him to help you.

3. Jesus teaches us how to **reorder** our **loves**. (Matthew 6:2, 5, 16)

- Jesus doesn't say, "**If**." He says, "**When**."
- Jesus tells us that practicing spiritual habits is not about **deprivation** but **devotion**.
- Jesus shows us how to seek the kingdom: To **rightly** order our lives under God's **reign**.

Application: Participate in the 21-day fast at any level by choosing to surrender something as an act of seeking God first (e.g., social media, food, entertainment, routine/patterns).

Remember: We don't practice spiritual habits to get something **from** God. We practice them as a means of **returning** to Him.

