



KIDS

weekly devotional



Matthew 6:33

"But seek first his kingdom and his righteousness, and all these things will be given to you as well."





"Forget it," said Tanya. "There is no way I can get all of this done. I need more time, more days, more of everything."

"What are you talking about," said Scott. "Your life cannot be as bad as you are making out to be."

But Tanya disagreed completely. She had two tests to study for, as well as her regular homework in math and science, and then there was the chore, always the chores her mom "forced" her to do.

"So, what are you going to do about it," said Scott, who had been one of Tanya's best friends since kindergarten.

"Well, I keep asking God to give me more time or less work to do," said Tanya. "I mean, if God can do all things, why can't He give me less stuff to do or more time to do more things. Argh I don't even know what I'm saying."

Tanya was starting to get really angry now. In fact, it sounded like she was blaming God for all of her homework, chores, and tests.

"I know it's not God's fault that I have all these things to do, but why won't He help me get them done," she said.

Scott knew that the problem wasn't God's unwillingness to help his friend. It was more about the things Tanya was asking God to do.

"Tanya, we all have a lot of things we need to get done," said Scott. "And all of them are necessary."

The logo for 'devo' features the word in a white, lowercase, sans-serif font with a slight 3D effect. It is centered over a large cyan circle, which is partially overlapped by a purple circle below it. The background is dark with a colorful, abstract brushstroke pattern at the top and bottom.

devo

"How are all these things necessary," she asked.

"Homework helps us learn the things we need to know, and tests help prove what we have learned," said Scott.

"Yeah, okay, I get that," she said. "But what about chores? Why do I have to do stupid chores all the time? I already have too much to do."

"Look, Tanya, chores are important, too," he said. "They help us learn the value of work. Look, I don't want to do homework, or tests, or chores any more than you do."

"Then why are you telling me all this stuff that I should be doing," asked Tanya.



point

Scott told her that not wanting to do something is different than not doing something. He said that God knows that some things just aren't fun or easy. Chores, homework, and tests are certainly not entertaining like movies and video games. Still, we need to do them and we need to do them well.


"And, Tanya, when you put God first, all of these other things will start to make sense," he said.

"That sounds like what Pastor Danny was trying to teach us last week at church," said Tanya.

Pastor Danny had been teaching the kids what God meant when He said, "But first seek His kingdom and His righteousness, and all these things will be given to you as well." He told the kids that in Jesus' time people were worried about what they would wear or eat or even where they might live.

"So, Jesus told the people that God already knows what they need," Pastor Danny had said last Sunday. "The most important thing we can do is put God first. He will take care of everything else."

"I remember what Pastor Danny said, but I didn't think he was talking about homework and chores," said Tanya.





Lesson



Most of the time when we pray, we are asking God for things that we need or want. We ask for more time, more food, more fun, more friends, more money, more things. But this verse today tells us that God already knows what we need – food, shelter, clothing, water – and is going to give it to us. What we need to do is spend more time seeking Him and His righteousness. That means spending time getting to know God better through His word and prayer and worship. Here is what we need to be doing – reading, praying, worshipping. Next time you are with God, don't just talk to Him about the things that worry you, ask Him to help you know Him better.





prayer



God, I am so in love with you. I am always asking you to give me the things I want and need, but I forget to ask you to teach me more about You. Please, show me how to love You more and how to follow You wherever You lead me. I want to know you more, Jesus, and I want to do Your will.

