

Priorities are the themes in today's questions about the things Jesus said. Like the others quotes from this series, portions of them are indeed biblical, but context is missing from the quotes as they are generally used. When the context is added, each question today is about what motivates people to get in the way of their faithwalk.

Q5: Money is the root of all evil.

Did Jesus really say that? This phrase is 100% quotable as written, but it also leaves out VERY important wording!

From the Bible:

Read 1 Timothy 6:10 – After giving Timothy warnings about the character of people and what motivates them, Paul starts the verse in question today. The very first phrase is: “For the love of...”. The quote people tend to use often omits this very important clause that adds so much meaning to the verse. You see, money in and of itself is not capable of being good or bad. It is an inanimate object with no moral value. However, when a human's attitude towards money, namely their love of it, comes into question, the verse means something entirely different. It is all about prioritizing wealth. This is above and beyond having a piggy bank and a rainy-day fund. This is a situation when relationships suffer due to someone emphasizing money over everything else. When we take advantage of others and neglect other responsibilities for the name of growing rich, something is out of order in our lives.

Money alone is not bad. Jesus instructed his followers to give and be charitable towards people with needs. Money is a necessity for that and therefore, cannot be bad. The point is to keep our attitudes and motivations in check.

Q6: Pride comes before the fall.

Did Jesus really say that? Not exactly. While this phrase draws its meaning from Proverbs 16:18 it is not worded the same.

Let's Read:

Proverbs 16:18 – Pride goes before destruction, a haughty spirit before the fall.

The first part of the verse, “Pride goes before destruction,” is straightforward. Being prideful does not end well. The second part, “a haughty spirit before the fall,” echoes the first statement.

Since Proverbs is a book of wisdom, Solomon is trying to tell the reader—usually personified as a young man (e.g. **Proverbs 1:8**) — that pride, also called “folly” within the text, is the opposite of wisdom. Looking a little further to verse 19: “Better to live humbly with the poor than to share plunder with the proud.” The meaning of that passage is clear, and it reflects the meaning of the previous, that pride leads to humiliation. It is better to be humble and poor than proud and rich.

Family Night Big idea – Read Matthew 22:37-40

Every command and instruction in Scripture can be simplified into these few verses. When you get these, you've got it!

- **Elementary School** – Ask, “What is something you've wanted so bad that you would do anything for a chance at it?”
- **Middle/ High School** – Ask, “What should we do to make sure we have these in the right order?”

Prayer "Lord, sometimes we find ourselves pulled in different directions and focusing on so many things. Help us see the things you want us to prioritize very clearly so that we love You, our neighbors and ourselves. Amen."

Velocity (Middle and High School Students)

Velocity: Meet at the church this Wednesday, Feb. 7th.

Gravity: No Gravity Today

Today's Songs

Praise You Anywhere.....Brandon Lake

Firm Foundation.....Cody Carnes

Battle Belongs.....Phil Wickham

Women's Event

You can sign up in February to see Priscilla Shirer live in Athens for her “Going Beyond” Event. The date is August 24th. Total cost is \$170 and that includes ticket and hotel. Pick up a flyer at the Welcome Desk to find out more information.

Father/ Daughter Dance

Dance is February 9th at 6pm at Pine Needle Plantation (2891 Ellis Rd., Register). Tickets are on sale now. Cost is \$30 per couple. Register at the Welcome Desk in the Lobby or online. Today is the last day to get a ticket.

Office Remodel Move

The office remodel is complete, and we will move back this Wednesday. If you can help with some heavy lifting, please let Pastor Mike know. We appreciate you!

Mother/Son Basketball Game

Meet at GSU Hanner Fieldhouse on March 1st at 7pm. Registration is open online at www.gracestatesboro.com.