**PUT GOD FIRST**

**Matthew 6:24, 31-34**

**24**[**No man can serve two masters: for either he will hate the one, and love the other; or else he will hold to the one, and despise the other. Ye cannot serve God and mammon.**](http://www.kingjamesbibleonline.org/Matthew-6-24/)

**(Mammon means wealth. In verse 21 Jesus said, 21**[**For where your treasure is, there will your heart be also.**](http://www.kingjamesbibleonline.org/Matthew-6-21/) **So where is your treasure? What is your heart fixated upon? What is your wealth? Show me your heart, and I’ll show you what you invested your life in and made into your treasure and your wealth (or mammon). God has to come first! God must be your treasure and your wealth!)**

**31**[**Therefore take no thought, saying, What shall we eat? or, What shall we drink? or, Wherewithal shall we be clothed?**](http://www.kingjamesbibleonline.org/Matthew-6-31/)

**32**[**(For after all these things do the Gentiles seek:) for your heavenly Father knoweth that ye have need of all these things.**](http://www.kingjamesbibleonline.org/Matthew-6-32/)

**33**[**But seek ye first the kingdom of God, and his righteousness; and all these things shall be added unto you.**](http://www.kingjamesbibleonline.org/Matthew-6-33/)

**34**[**Take therefore no thought for the morrow: for the morrow shall take thought for the things of itself. Sufficient unto the day *is* the evil thereof.**](http://www.kingjamesbibleonline.org/Matthew-6-34/) **(Verse 34 is saying that there’s no need in worrying about tomorrow because it’ll have a sufficient amount of distressing evil and problems without you worrying about it! All we need to be concerned about is putting God first!)**

**INTRO:**

**Illustration: We’re living in a church world society that puts God in a closet somewhere. Every so often when they don’t have anything else to do, they get Him out just as if He was the game of Monopoly! They re-read the rules and “play the game” for two or three hours, and then it’s back in the closet upon the shelf the Lord goes until 6 months to a year down the road.**

**Matthew 6:33 33**[**But seek ye first the kingdom of God, and his righteousness; and all these things shall be added unto you.**](http://www.kingjamesbibleonline.org/Matthew-6-33/)

**1. Set Proper Priorities**

**33**[**But seek ye first the kingdom of God,**](http://www.kingjamesbibleonline.org/Matthew-6-33/)

 **a. Seek His Heaven First**

 **b. Seek His Heart First**

**\*\*We need to put God’s Message first, His Money first, and His Mission first!**

**\*\*What is first in your life? What are your priorities?**

**2. Seek Personal Purity**

**33**[**But seek ye first the kingdom of God, and his righteousness;**](http://www.kingjamesbibleonline.org/Matthew-6-33/)  **(Seek His Holiness!)**

 **a. Desire It**

 **b. Define It (It’s not Self Righteousness; it’s the Savior’s Righteousness!)**

 **c. Do It (Seek to be holy and righteous in God’s eyes!)**

**3. See Promised Prosperity**

**33**[**. . . and all these things shall be added unto you.**](http://www.kingjamesbibleonline.org/Matthew-6-33/)

 **(Seek His Hope) What does it mean by “these things”?**

**\*\*It means He’ll take care of your Apparel, your Appetite, and your Afterlife if you’ll just seek His Heart, His Heaven, His Holiness and His Hope!**

**\*\*So how can we Put God First?**

**BODY – PUT GOD FIRST**

**I. DESIRE GOD FIRST**

**The Revelation 4**[**Nevertheless I have *somewhat* against thee, because thou hast left thy first love.**](http://www.kingjamesbibleonline.org/Revelation-2-4/)

 **A. Desire His Presence First**

**Jeremiah 29:13 13**[**And ye shall seek me, and find *me*, when ye shall search for me with all your heart.**](http://www.kingjamesbibleonline.org/Jeremiah-29-13/)

 **1. Desire His Personal Presence**

 **2. Desire His Powerful Presence**

**Proverbs 8:17 God said, 17**[**I love them that love me; and those that seek me early shall find me.**](http://www.kingjamesbibleonline.org/Proverbs-8-17/)

**\*\*Some say, “Why can’t I feel His presence?” I say, “Why haven’t you sought after Him and told Him you loved Him?”**

 **B. Desire His Pleasure First**

**Psalms 16:11 11**[**Thou wilt shew me the path of life: in thy presence *is* fulness of joy; at thy right hand *there are* pleasures for evermore.**](http://www.kingjamesbibleonline.org/Psalms-16-11/)

**\*\*There’s pleasures at the right hand of God in His Will, in His Ways, and in His Walk!**

 **C. Desire His Praises First**

**II Samuel 22:4 4**[**I will call on the LORD, *who is* worthy to be praised:**](http://www.kingjamesbibleonline.org/2-Samuel-22-4/)

**II Samuel 22:50 50**[**Therefore I will give thanks unto thee, O LORD, among the heathen, and I will sing praises unto thy name.**](http://www.kingjamesbibleonline.org/2-Samuel-22-50/)

**\*\*Are there any heathens in here? I hope not, but if there is I will still lift up my Head, lift up my Heart, and lift up my Hands and praise God!**

**\*\*My First Desire Must Be God!**

**II. DETECT GOD FIRST**

**John 8:47a 47**[**He that is of God heareth God's words:**](http://www.kingjamesbibleonline.org/John-8-47/)

 **A. Be Sensitive Concerning How To Take Him**

 **1. Be Sensitive to Letting the Spirit Lead You!**

**\*\*We cannot come in and do whatever we take a notion to do! We must make sure the Spirit is leading us to do so.**

 **2. Be Sensitive to Letting the Scripture Lead You!**

**\*\*So many good church people foolishly have church in ways that do not line up with the scripture!**

 **B. Be Sensitive Concerning How To Trust Him**

 **1. Do you trust Him more than Intelligence?**

**a. Our Intelligence can’t be trusted like His Intelligence!**

**b. Others Intelligence can’t be trusted like His Intelligence!**

 **2. Do you trust Him more than Income?**

**Song: I can trust Him. I can trust Him, for my God’s at work in all things that I need. He is able and unchanging. He’s the hope that still surrounds me faithfully. I can trust Him!**

 **C. Be Sensitive Concerning How To Thank Him**

 **\*\*Be Sensitive and Detect the Need to . . .**

 **1. Thank Him For His Grace!**

 **2. Thank Him For His Goodness!**

 **3. Thank Him For His Greatness!**

**\*\*Is God first in your life? If He is, you will be able to detect Him when He comes around and moves in your life!**

**\*\*Too many people cannot detect God in their life because God is simply not first in their life!**

**\*\*My First Detection Must Be God!**

**III. DECLARE GOD FIRST**

**Acts 22:15 15**[**For thou shalt be his witness unto all men of what thou hast seen and heard.**](http://www.kingjamesbibleonline.org/Acts-22-15/)

**\*\*It’s our job to tell others about Jesus! Who are the others?**

 **A. Declare God to Our Children**

**Deuteronomy 11:18-19 18**[**Therefore shall ye lay up these my words in your heart and in your soul,**](http://www.kingjamesbibleonline.org/Deuteronomy-11-18/)

**19**[**And ye shall teach them your children, speaking of them when thou sittest in thine house, and when thou walkest by the way, when thou liest down, and when thou risest up.**](http://www.kingjamesbibleonline.org/Deuteronomy-11-19/)

 **1. Tell Your Children About His Stories**

 **2. Tell Your Children About His Son**

 **3. Tell Your Children About His Salvation**

 **B. Declare God to Other Christians**

**Colossians 4:6 6**[**Let your speech *be* alway with grace, seasoned with salt, that ye may know how ye ought to answer every man.**](http://www.kingjamesbibleonline.org/Colossians-4-6/)

 **1. Before talking about Sports, talk about Jesus!**

 **2. Before talking about Storms, talk about Jesus!**

 **3. Before talking about Society, talk about Jesus!**

 **a. Some talk only about their T.V. Programs**

 **b. Some talk only about their T.V. Politicians**

 **C. Declare God to Our Community**

**\*\*Our community needs to hear about . . .**

 **1. The Only God**

 **2. The Only Gospel**

 **3. The Only Good**

**\*\*We better put God first in our conversations!**

**\*\*My First Declaration Must Be God!**

**IV. DELIGHT GOD FIRST**

**Psalms 40:8 8**[**I delight to do thy will, O my God: yea, thy law *is* within my heart.**](http://www.kingjamesbibleonline.org/Psalms-40-8/)

 **A. Let Us Worship and Delight the Lord**

 **1. Speak for Him in Worship**

 **2. Sing for Him in Worship**

 **3. Shout for Him in Worship**

 **4. Sacrifice for Him in Worship**

 **B. Let Us Work and Delight the Lord**

**I Corinthians 15:58 58**[**Therefore, my beloved brethren, be ye stedfast, unmoveable, always abounding in the work of the Lord, forasmuch as ye know that your labour is not in vain in the Lord.**](http://www.kingjamesbibleonline.org/1-Corinthians-15-58/)

 **1. Let’s Work Hard for God**

 **2. Let’s Work Happy for God**

 **3. Let’s Work Humbly for God**

 **C. Let Us Walk and Delight the Lord**

**Deuteronomy 5:33 33**[**Ye shall walk in all the ways which the LORD your God hath commanded you, that ye may live, and *that it may be* well with you, and *that* ye may prolong *your* days in the land which ye shall possess.**](http://www.kingjamesbibleonline.org/Deuteronomy-5-33/)

 **1. Walk in God’s Leadership**

 **2. Walk in God’s Lordship**

 **3. Walk in God’s Language**

**\*\*Do you let God lead you? Do you even allow God to be your Lord? Do you look at His language in His book and do what it says to do?**

**\*\*My First Delight Must Be God!**

**CLOSE**

**1. The America that you and I grew up in no longer exists!**

**2. This American society has pushed and shoved us around and told us that our God comes second!**

 **a. Our places of employment will tell you that God comes second!**

 **b. Our places of education will tell you that God comes second!**

 **c. Our places of enjoyment will tell you that God comes second!**

**3. Listen and hear me good! I LIVE FOR GOD not for society!!**

**4. God has to come first! If He doesn’t come first in your life and if God only comes in second in your life, then your kids and grandkids will not have Him in their life at all!**

**5. God is more important than anything in this whole world!**

**\*\*Where is God in your life? Is He first? Second? Somewhere stashed away in a closet of your mind? Does He even exist in your life at all?**

**\*\*When will God be first in your life? Will you come to this altar and make Him first in your life today?**

**\*\*Matthew 6:24 No man can serve two masters**

**\*\*Matthew 6:33 But seek ye first the kingdom of God, and his righteousness;**