

# Ducks in a Row

ESTABLISHING RIGHT PRIORITIES



- Priorities are more than a **list** in our **head**; priorities are about what we **do first**.

8 Come close to God, and God will come close to you. Wash your hands, you sinners; purify your hearts, for your loyalty is divided between God and the world. James 4:8 (NLT)

## We put God First when we:

- **Reorder** our lives to show that **God** has **first place**.

2 "I am the LORD your God, who brought you out of Egypt, out of the land of slavery.

3 "You shall have no other gods before me. Exodus 20:2-3 (NIV)

## In putting God first:

- We give God the first of **everything**.

30 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 (NIV)

23 The purpose of tithing is to teach you always to put God first in your lives. Deuteronomy 14:23 (TLB)

## I can give God:

- The first of my **year**.

- The first of my **Month**.

10 Bring your full tithe to the Temple treasury so there will be ample provisions in my Temple. Test me in this and see if I don't open up heaven itself to you and pour out blessings beyond your wildest dreams. Malachi 3:10 (MSG)

24 "You can't worship two gods at once. Loving one god, you'll end up hating the other. Adoration of one feeds contempt for the other. You can't worship God and Money both. Matthew 6:24 (MSG)

- The first of my **week**.

24 Let's see how inventive we can be in encouraging love and helping out,

25 not avoiding worshipping together as some do but spurring each other on, especially as we see the big Day approaching. Hebrews 10:24-25 (MSG)

- The first of our **day**.

The first of our day we take **time** with God.

5 minutes in the **Word**.

5 minutes in **worship**.

5 minutes in **prayer**.

## When we put God First:

- Expect God to **bless the rest**.

6 Listen for GOD's voice in everything you do, everywhere you go; he's the one who will keep you on track.

7 Don't assume that you know it all. Run to GOD! Run from evil!

8 Your body will glow with health, your very bones will vibrate with life!

9 Honor GOD with everything you own; give him the first and the best.

10 Your barns will burst, your wine vats will brim over. Proverbs 3:6-10 (MSG)

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## TO CREATIVELY LOVE AND LEAD PEOPLE IN A GROWING RELATIONSHIP WITH JESUS.

### Questions that can be used in Connection Groups:

*These questions also work well for personal time with God.*

- What scripture and/or point spoke most to you from the Talk on Sunday? Explain why?
- Why should God have first place in our lives?
- How do our priorities show that God is first in our lives? Do you believe that your personal priorities demonstrate that God is first in your life? Explain.
- How do we reorder our lives to show that God is first?
- How does giving God the first of everything demonstrate the priority He is in our life?
- Have you decided what fast you will do to put God first in your year? How does a fast prioritize God in our year?
- How does giving financially to God prioritize God in our life?
- How do we make God first in our week? How does committing to attend church prioritize God?
- What are some ways we can make God first in your day?
- Do you expect God to bless your life because he's first in your life?

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Putting God First

Sunday, January 8th, 2023

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