



### The Vow of Priority Week 1

- What are the top three relationships you value most in your life right now? What three activities do you give the most time to in an average day? Do your activities support the relationships you value most? If so, how? If not, why do you think that is?

*Jesus replied: "Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind.' This is the first and greatest commandment. And the second is like it: 'Love your neighbor as yourself.'*

**Matthew 22:37-39 (NIV)**

*You shall have no other gods before me.*

**Exodus 20:3 (NIV)**

- Was there a time when you put a relationship with another person ahead of your relationship with God. If so, how did it affect your relationship with God?
- If someone, who didn't know you, observed all of your daily activities last week, what would they conclude are your top priorities?

*For this reason a man will leave his father and mother and be united to his wife, and they will become one flesh. The man and his wife were both naked, and they felt no shame*

**Genesis 2:24-25 (NIV)**

- Prior to being married, the most important human relationship is with our parents. Have your priorities changed in your life after being married. If so, how?
- For those that are not married, describe which relationships are top priority in your life currently. How are those relationships impacting your life right now?

*Husbands, love your wives, just as Christ loved the church and gave himself up for her...*

**Ephesians: 5:25 (NIV)**

- It is not only the negative things that can disrupt your priorities; it can often be the positive things too. What are the top three things (negative or positive) that currently have the most potential to disrupt your priorities?

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

**Matthew 6:33 (NIV)**

- Are there specific changes you believe God is calling you to make so that he remains your number one priority? If so, what are they?

**Final thought:** If you are married, commit to pray together daily this week. Individually and in your group, pray and ask God to be first in your life and pray that He will give you the wisdom and strength to protect your priorities.



# Group Discussion Questions

Week 1

## The Vow of Priority Week 1

### For Further Study

To use this resource, simply select one or two questions from each category below that you think will help your group discussion. Alternatively, you can use these questions and Scriptures in your own personal devotions during the week.

#### Open

- What would be some effective ways to determine what is really a priority in your life?

#### Explore

##### Read Matthew 13: 44-46

- What is like treasure hidden in a field? How? (13:44)
- What is the kingdom of heaven like? Why? (13:44)
- Where was treasure hidden? (13:44)
- What happened when the man uncovered the hidden treasure? (13:44)
- How did the man feel when he discovered the treasure? (13:44)
- To what did Christ compare the kingdom of heaven? (13:45)
- What did the man in the parable find? (13:46)
- How valuable was the pearl? (13:47)
- How did the man who found the pearl react to its discovery? (13:47)

#### Reflect

- If we believe the gospel is true, why does it often seem so easy to be passive about our relationship with Christ?
- How can we maintain the joy and excitement we had when we first met Christ?
- When, if ever, has your relationship with Christ cost you something?
- What would you say to a someone who says that you can be a Christ follower without completely "selling out" to follow Christ?
- Other than buried treasure or a precious pearl, what illustrations could you use to explain the value of knowing Christ to others?

#### Apply

- Are there items in your own life that you need to "sell off" in order to focus your priorities on following Christ?

#### **Here are some suggestions you may want to use for your time with God this week:**

**Day 1:** Read Ephesians 5:22-23. Spend time praying and ask God if He is truly your number one. Ask Him to show those things in your life that are competing for His place.

**Day 2:** Read Matthew 6:25-34. Ask God to center your focus again today on continuing to make Him number one in your life.

**Day 3:** Read Matthew 22:37-39. Pray, asking God to remove the distractions in your life that would keep you from making Him your top priority today.

**Day 4:** Read Genesis 2:24-25. Lift up in prayer those relationships most important in your life.

**Day 5:** Read Mark 12:28-34. Pray for those in your LifeGroup that they will make God the number one priority in their lives. Commit to God that you will do your part to help your group as a whole put God first.