## MAKE IT A SEPTEMBER R E M E M B E R ΤΟ



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#### **REMEMBER:** 2024 IS A YEAR OF <u>GROWTH</u>!

"... growing in every way more and more like Christ..." (Ephesians 4:15)

"Growth is the only evidence of life."

- John Henry Newman

"When you stop growing you start dying." - William S. Burroughs



#### **REMEMBER: THE ACRONYM "GROW"**

#### In 2024 I am going to GROW in:

## **G** - Putting GOD First **R - My RELATIONSHIP with God and people O - OBEDIENCE** W - Acting on God's WORD



## <u>REMEMBER: LET'S MAKE SEPTEMBER A</u> MONTH TO REMEMBER!

**1 September - G of GROW Putting GOD First!** 

8 September - R of GROW **My RELATIONSHIP with God and people!** 

> 15 September - O of GROW **OBEDIENCE**

22 September - W of GROW Acting on God's WORD!





#### **GOD FIRST**

"In everything you do, put God first, and he will direct you and crown your efforts with success," - Proverbs 3:6 (TLB)

"But seek first the kingdom of God and his righteousness, and all these things will be added to you."

- Matthew 6:33 (NKJV)

#### TWO REASONS WHY WE SHOULD PUT GOD **FIRST ACCORDING TO MATTHEW 6:33**

#### **I. SEEK GOD**

- "But <u>SEEK first the kingdom of God and his</u> righteousness..."
  - Matthew 6:33 (NKJV)
- "But first and most importantly <u>SEEK</u> (aim at, strive after) His kingdom and His righteousness [His way of doing and being right—the attitude and character of God]..."
  - Matthew 6:33 (AMP)

### TWO REASONS WHY WE SHOULD PUT GOD FIRST ACCORDING TO MATTHEW 6:33

## **SEEK GOD = DIVINE COMMAND!**

## There are three types of people:

1. Those who do not seek God - they do not know what real happiness is.

2. Those who seek God, but not first - they are the most miserable of people and don't know why.

3. Those who seek God first - they are the happiest people in the world.

# The formula of those who SEEK GOD FIRST:

## "Seek God, not happiness." - Thomas de Kempis

## Jonathan Edwards wrote a series of resolutions to govern his life:

# I will live for God! If no one else does, I still will!

## "For the Son of Man came to seek and save those who are ost."

## - Luke 19:10 (NLT)

#### "Seek his will in all you do, and he will show you which path to take."

#### - Proverbs 3:6 (NLT)

"<u>Commit your works to the Lord</u> [submit and trust them to Him], And your plans will succeed [if you respond to His will and guidance]."

- Proverbs 16:3 (AMP)



## To SEEK GOD FIRST, does not necessarily mean FIRST in series or order or process, it means FIRST in PRIORITY!!!

## SEEK GOD FIRST IN: YOUR TIME!

"After removing Saul, he made David their king. God testified concerning him: 'I have found David son of Jesse, a man after my own heart; he will do everything I want him to do." - Acts 13:22 (NIV)

"Listen to my voice in the morning, Lord. Each morning I bring my requests to you and wait expectantly." - Psalms 5:3 (NLT)

## **SEEK GOD FIRST IN: YOUR MONEY!**

"Honour the Lord with your possessions, And with the first-fruits of all your increase; So your barns will be filled with plenty, And your vats will overflow with new wine."

- Proverbs 3:9-10 (NKJV)

## SEEK GOD FIRST IN: YOUR **RELATIONSHIPS!**

"... bad company corrupts good character." - 1 Corinthians 15:33 (NLT)

"I am giving you a new commandment, that you love one another. Just as I have loved you, so you too are to love one another. By this everyone will know that you are My disciples, if you have love and unselfish concern for one another."

- John 13:34-35 (AMP)

## "If you have not chosen the kingdom of God first, it will in the end make no difference what you have chosen instead."

#### - William Law



## "<u>My choice is</u> you, God, first and only. And now I find I'm your choice!" - **Psalms 16:5 (MSG)**

## WHEN YOU PUT GOD FIRST, HE WILL PUT YOU FIRST!!! - Dr Anthony Jacobs

### TWO REASONS WHY WE SHOULD PUT GOD **FIRST ACCORDING TO MATTHEW 6:33**

#### 2. TRUST GOD

## "... and all these things will be added to you."

- Matthew 6:33 (NKJV)

### TWO REASONS WHY WE SHOULD PUT GOD FIRST ACCORDING TO MATTHEW 6:33

## TRUST GOD = DIVINE PROMISE!

"God's people live on promises and not on explanations. When you trust God's promises and step out by faith, you can be sure that the Lord will give you the directions you need when you need them."

- Warren W. Wiersbe

"... [but do not worry,] for your heavenly Father knows that you need them."

- Matthew 6:32 (AMP)

"... your Father knows what you need before you ask Him." - Matthew 6:8 (AMP)

To TRUST GOD is to PRAY instead of WORRYING!

6 Do not be anxious or worried about anything, but in everything [every circumstance and situation] by prayer and petition with thanksgiving, continue to make your [specific] requests known to God. 7 And the peace of God [that peace which reassures the heart, that peace] which transcends all understanding, [that peace which] stands guard over your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus [is yours]. [John 14:27]" - Philippians 4:6-7 (AMP)

## "As God is exalted to the right place in our lives, a thousand problems are solved all at once."

### - AW Tozer

## "WHEN YOU SEEK GOD AND YOU TRUST GOD, YOU ARE INEVITABLY SAYING THAT YOU ARE PUTTING GOD FIRST IN YOUR LIFE!"

## - Dr Anthony Jacobs