

PRIORITIES

Robert Morris

Priorities

Focus Priorities can be set by knowing God's call on our life. We can schedule our time to fulfill our priorities.

Fun Summer is here! What's your favorite summer activity?

Review Key Scriptures: Exodus 18:13–21; Exodus 4:24–26; Acts 6:1–4

- Before setting our schedules, we need to ask God for our priorities. Pastor Robert's job priorities are to equip us through prayer, through teaching, and by appointing leaders.
- Through *prayer*, Pastor Robert represents us to God. His message may be once a week; however, his first priority is to stand before God.
- *Teaching* is his second priority. Pastor Robert's responsibility is to teach character and ministry. To do that, he spends more time each week praying and studying than administrating.
- By *appointing leaders*, Pastor Robert is able to focus on pastoring while others carry out important pastoral priorities.
- For Pastor Robert, prioritizing his time doesn't come at the expense of being a *good husband, father, and grandfather*. Family comes before ministry.

Group Dynamics Idea Think of ways your group members can help each other during the week. For example, someone may need a person to agree with them in prayer during the week. Perhaps someone needs a ride or help choosing nutritious groceries.

Discuss 1. Every believer is called. Why is it important to prioritize God's calling? How can a schedule deepen your relationship with God?

2. Scheduling priorities will make them happen. Name some ways a schedule can help your relationships, your job, and even your health.
3. Character determines your ability to fulfill your ministry. Share a time when character made the difference in completing an obligation.
4. As we seek God's priorities for our lives, we should adjust our schedules accordingly. Summarize how your life has changed or can change by setting priorities.
5. Predict how your level of commitment to prioritizing your life will determine where you budget your time.

Take Home

Each of us benefit by knowing God's call on our life. The presence of God brings responsibility. When we set our priorities, we will know how to schedule our time. Good, strong character enhances the way we follow our schedule to fulfillment.

Prayer

Heavenly Father, thank You for bringing us into Your presence. We receive our holy calling according to Your purpose. We submit to Your counsel for our priorities to fulfill kingdom business. We give ourselves continually to prayer and to the ministry of the Word, as the disciples did in Acts 6. Now with unspeakable joy we know that in You all things are complete. Jesus, we love You beyond measure! In Jesus' name, Amen.

New Leader Tip

Because each group member is different, each person's schedule will be different too. Remind them that while God loves to meet with them as a group, He is especially delighted to meet with each one of us individually.