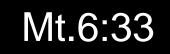
# Our Top Priority



Seek: present active imperative Strive for, try to obtain – a constant preoccupation. 7:7-8

- 6:32: worldly people work . . . buy
- 13:45, pearls
- 18:12-14, lost sheep

Motivation behind diligent searches Passionate desire of the heart No one searches for fun of it

- Col.3:1, seek...
  - -2, set mind on; be intent on.
- Hb.6:11, we desire...

# II. The Plan: kingdom, righteousness

# All seek something

- Mt.2:13, 20, Herod
- Lk.13:6, fruit . . . (24)
- Jn.6:26, Jesus

### What do Christians seek

- Kingdom of God
  - King of heart and life
- Righteousness
  - Live in way God requires, 5:10, 20
    - Something that is done, 3:15; 6:1
    - Object of great desire, 5:6
    - If He is our King, we are righteous, 5:(3) 6; Ro.14:17

II. The Plan: Kingdom, Right.

III. The Priority: First

#### First?

Not first in time, but importance

- Do I give kingdom my FIRST and BEST?
  - Give up everything else for the kingdom.
  - Sums up sermon on the mount.
    - Mt.19:...21-22 . . . (27)
    - Most reverse the order.
    - Sins are attempts to be happy (v.32).

Most agree with first two precepts
Our trouble is with the third ('first')
Question: do I make all other things secondary to cause of God?

- Mt.8:19-20
  - Jesus almost seems to discourage him
  - He knew heart of men

Most agree with first two precepts Our trouble is with the third ('first')

- Question: do I make all other things secondary to cause of God?
- Mt.8:19-20
- Mt.8:21-22
  - Extreme case: does God still come first?
  - When is it acceptable to put God second?
  - Priorities determine if we are saved or lost.

What is required in seeking Him first?

- 1. Serious search. 25, anxiety. Lk.10:42.
- 2. Schedule others things second.
- 3. Stress on spiritual things. Ro.14:17.

Sin of omission, James 4:17

II. The Plan: Kingdom, Right.

III. The Priority: First

IV. The Promise: All These Things Added

#### Mt.6:24-34

Put God first; do not worry about material things (31)

- Worriers mix up priorities; have little faith (30)
- 2. Solomon, 1 K.3:11-14 . . . 11:9-11
- 3. These things are basic material needs

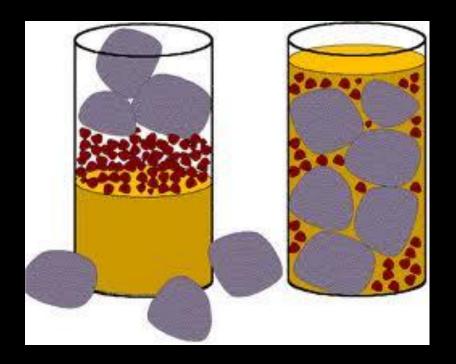
He promises survival, not wealth. 1 Tim.4:8

# Mt.19:27, the question

- 1. 28: all who continue to follow Him will be blessed.
- 2. 29: all true sacrifice will be rewarded.
- **3**. 30: not all that looks like sacrifice, really is.

Many are concerned about 'getting their due' and not enough about priorities

## Rocks, pebbles, and sand



Many are concerned about 'getting their due' and not enough about priorities

- 1. Priority: heavenly treasure, 19-21
- 2. Clear vision, 22-23
- 3. Trust God, not things, 24
- 4. Do not worry about our life, 25-30
  - We are blessed beyond Solomon, 29
  - Opposite of worry is faith, 30
- 5. Outdo 'Gentiles' (32)