

Helps to Being a Fountain

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I. Introduction.

- A. While we are on this earth people motivate us to do the ministry. (John 17)
- B. There are keys to building a spiritual foundation.

II. Work.

- A. Time, the Word of God and being Spirit-filled is all the same work. (Ephesians 5:16-18)
- B. To be enthusiastic means to be God-filled. (Colossians 3:23)
- C. We are to be diligent in what God wants us to do.
- D. Busyness is a threat. We must run our lives on certain priorities.
- E. Text: Acts 6:2-4.
- F. The Apostles were successful because they majored in the Word of God and prayer.

III. Priorities.

- A. Your personal relationship with Jesus Christ. (Romans 7:4)
- B. The total well being of your family. (1 Timothy 3:4-5, 7)
- C. The ministry.
- D. Tent-making—your work.
- E. If we are not careful with our priorities, life will squeeze us.

IV. Prayer.

- A. We ought to pray that Christian leaders abound in love, are able to approve what is excellent, are able to be sincere to the day of Christ and are filled with all the fruits of righteousness. (Philippians 1)
- B. We can go to the prayers of Paul to pray for people more specifically. (Ephesians 1:15-20; 3:14-21; Colossians 1:9-12)

V. Perspective.

- A. We seek vision and perspective. The Bible is full of these men. (Hebrews 11)
- B. Paul counted everything a loss for Christ.
- C. We are called to respect the judgment seat of Christ.

VI. Commitment. (Luke 9:23)

A. The price.

1. We do not possess our own life.
2. We are called to deny our selves—those things that gratify us.
3. The cross is something we are to take daily.

B. The promise. We will gain our lives if we lose it.

C. The profit.

D. The pronouncement: shame.

VII. Confession.

A. To repent means to think again.

B. We must pursue holiness by cleansing ourselves. (2 Corinthians 7:1; 1 Corinthians 12; 15:34)

Application questions:

1. How were you impacted by the reading of Paul's prayer for people in personal circles?

2. What should we expect commitment to look like in the Christian life?

3. What does it mean to have perspective as Christians? Explain.
