

## **Life Verses** *Jerry Bridges*

### I. Introduction.

- A. Life verses are verses that we go back often for guidance and assurance.
- B. Usually God gives you these verses as you study- you don't go in search of them.
- C. The three life verses that Jerry has have themes running through them.
- D. This message is meant to build bridges between the administrative staff of the Navigators and the Navigators field staff.
- E. The principles that are in these verses are the Word of God and contain eternal truths.

### II. The motivation for the ministry and the sacrifice it implies is God's worthiness. (Revelation 4:11)

### III. The attitude toward the ministry that we need to display is that we are there because of God's grace. (Ephesians 3:8)

- A. It is God's grace that we are in the ministry- we do not deserve it, we are not doing God a favor, and He does not need us.
- B. It is our privilege to be in ministry with Christ. (2 Corinthians 4:1; Isaiah 43:4; John 12:24)
- C. God's sovereign grace should keep us from comparing our ministry or our role in the kingdom to others'. (Romans 9:21; Matthew 20:15)
- D. Grace will keep us humble. (Isaiah 41:14-15)
- E. Grace will encourage us.

### IV. The direction in the ministry needs to come from the study, practice, and teaching of God's Word. (Ezra 7:10)

- A. Disciple-makers are first teachers of the Word of God. (Matthew 28:19-20)
  - 1. Before we can teach, we must study the Word of God. We must be continuous students.
  - 2. After we study, we must practice the Word of God. (Titus 1:1; 1 Corinthians 8:1)
- B. Then we can teach, but we need to know that we will be judged more strictly than others. (James 3:1; 1 Peter 4:11)

**Application questions:**

1. Either formally or informally, many Christians are teaching someone the Word of God. How can we make sure that what we teach is true and honors God?

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2. Are you tempted to compare your role in God's ministry with someone else's? In those moments, how can an experience of God's grace correct your heart?

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3. Are there verses that have been meaningful in your life that you find yourself going back to often? Take the time to memorize them and meditate on them.

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