

Balanced Living

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I. Introduction. There are principles for maintaining balance in life.

II. Avoid the pitfall of making the distinction between sacred and secular.

A. Through the Incarnation God said that there was no distinction between the sacred and secular. (I John 1:1)

B. When God becomes a man the rules changed—there was no more dichotomy between the two.

C. We must ask the Lord to integrate us. (Psalm 86)

D. All things are pure in and of themselves. (Titus 1:15, Romans 14:14)

E. One cannot have a balanced Christian life if he separates the secular from spiritual activities.

F. Every believer is called into the ministry—clergy and laity are not set apart in the New Testament. (Ephesians 4:11-12)

III. Never use time or activities as a basis for self-acceptance.

A. We have to be careful with false guilt. (Genesis 3:9)

B. Christ is our life—there is nothing we can do to be more significant. (Colossians 3:4)

C. When our acceptance becomes a matter of activities, we disintegrate.

IV. Be Christ-like with your objectives.

A. Jesus' objective was training men, as ours should be. (John 17:4)

B. Jesus did not go through life with a packaged agenda. Have fun and enjoy people.

C. A little meditation on II Corinthians 5 helps us from being lazy.

Application questions:

1. What are some ways we separate the sacred and secular?

2. Why is having a proper basis for self-acceptance so important?

3. How can you reorganize your objectives so that they are more Christ-like?
