

Balance

Skip Gray

I. Introduction.

A. The distinction between the sacred and the secular is artificial.

B. All things are pure. Nothing is impure in itself. (Psalm 86:11)

II. Do not use time, performance or activities as a basis for acceptance.

A. Christ is our life. (Colossians 3:4)

B. Christ wants to live life through you. (Psalm 62:5)

C. Failure is good because it helps us to be more dependent upon God.

D. Develop a biblical theology of failure binding Philippians 4 with 2 Corinthians 12.

E. We need ground controllers who can give us valuable input.

F. The problem with dirty feet is that they never come at the right time. (John 13)

III. Jesus Christ is your life—our expectation should be from him.

IV. Develop some clear objectives.

A. There is no point in being balanced if you stand in the past.

B. Continue to provoke your mind towards real and attainable objectives.

C. Have clear ministry objectives that you can talk over with other people. (Isaiah 32:2)

V. Steps of maturity. (Romans 14)

A. Be persuaded what your own convictions are. This is different than doctrine, which is nonnegotiable.

B. Be considerate of others' convictions. Do not be a stumbling block.

C. Contribute.

D. Communion. This is unconditional acceptance. (Romans 15:7)

VI. Conclusion: all of life is sacred, this truth must be nurtured in Christ, and we must have some personal goals to do the Word of God effectively.

Application questions:

1. How would you respond to someone who says that church “things” are just for Sunday?

2. Why are objectives important for the Christian life?

3. What are your lifelong ministry objectives? Spend some time in reflection and try to write a ministry purpose statement in twenty-five words or less below.
