



LOOKING UP!

By Matt Huddleston

There are just a few things you give to God. More accurately, we should say, “There are just a few things we can give BACK to God.” He is the Creator of all things. He is the One who first gave to us. Whatever we have is because He bestowed it on us. On and on, we could go about His giving nature. Back to the point, what can we give back to God?

We only have three things to offer; our time, talents, and treasures. And we can only give whole-heartedly; anything less God despises. David would not offer a discounted sacrifice because David knows God is worth more (1 Chron. 21:24).

Over the next 52 weeks, we will talk about how we use our time, talents, and treasures to glorify God. Sometimes we offer our time, treasure, or talent directly in worshiping our Father. Other times, we offer these to bless those around us. The priority is to glorify God. Above all your goals, this New Year is God’s glory.

How do you spend your time? Is your relaxation God-honoring? Can we expect proper nourishment for the tasks of the new day if God would not be pleased with our appetite?

What is the legacy of your talents? Do you climb the corporate ladder so that your name is remembered, feared, or honored? Do those that work around you know your highest goal is God’s honor?

Finally, what about your treasure? In Matt. 6:21, Jesus said, “Where your treasure is, there your heart will also be.” Are we accumulating things that will rust away or a history that will last forever?

SERMON NOTES

4 T’s
January 02



With _____ and _____, we, the South Fork family, _____ to _____ our three resources (_____, _____, and _____) in life with the _____, _____, and _____, so the _____ is empowered and equipped to share the _____ to the _____.

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JAN. 9, 2022

NEH. 9:5-6

Next Week:

GREATER THAN >< LESS THAN

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PERSONAL STUDY

It is rewarding to invest time each day in God's Word.

Mo Luke 12:29-31

Set your schedule to do first things first today. Start your work week with time with your Father. Yield control of this week to Him. Agree to live out what is right and kingdom first.

Tu Philippians 4:8

Monitor your thoughts this week. Do you spend time reacting to things that are not right? Do your thoughts, actions, and words reflect a heart that seeks what is right?

We Luke 14:27-35

Determining the next right step is often helped by looking further down the road. Paying attention to details is prudent. What do you need to investigate as a way of living faithfully?

Th Exodus 8:9-10

Pharaoh heard God's invitation for a reprieve from the frogs. Why was his answer to wait? Do you hesitate to do what is right? Do you eagerly anticipate joining God in bringing help and restoration?

Fr Proverbs 6:6-11

A sluggard hesitates by saying, "Why do today what can be put off till tomorrow." We can be sluggards in our right ways of living. Holding off doing good to bless others leads to your own demise.

Sa 2 Timothy 2:15

Are you preparing for the upcoming challenges? Are you proactive in learning? Do you seek God's Word in advance of difficult times? To be ready to seize the day, we must prepare today.

STUDY & DISCUSS

- Read Philippians 4:8 and notice either the word *right* or *just* (dikaioi). What does that word mean in each of these examples;
 - ◇ Matthew 1:19 - Joseph was a dikaioi man.
 - ◇ Acts 4:19 - what is action is dikaioi in God's eyes?
 - ◇ 1 Peter 3:12 - God sees and hears those who are dikaioi.
- Are there moments or relationships in your life right now where your perspective is clouded, and you are missing what God is doing or leading you to do?
- Are there moments or relationships in your life right now that you only see what is wrong? Is a constant negative perspective dividing you from seeing the positives or opportunities?
- Being ready to live a righteous life is a pre-decision. If you struggle with living righteously, what decisions or rejections can you make today to prepare you for tomorrow's opportunities? See Joshua's pre-decision in Joshua 24:14-15.
- Romans 12:2 teaches us to renew our minds. What we think about and how we believe significantly affect our lives. Procrastination is a great killer of initiative and opportunity. Setting out your gym clothes the night before increases the likelihood of going to the gym in the morning. What can you do to increase your participation with:
 - ◇ God's Word
 - ◇ God's People
 - ◇ God's Spirit