

Family Devotional

From April 30, 2017

Watch This: Follow this link: <https://goo.gl/kq4uXr> to a short YouTube video that demonstrates the importance of knowing your priorities. If you have all the supplies or want to go get them, as a family, try doing the same experiment he talks about. You will need a large jar, rocks of various sizes, pebbles, sand and water.

The video talked about why we need to put the most important things in our life first and then there will be time for the other things to find their proper place. The same is true in our relationship with Jesus and our quest to learn about the Truth. Let's read a story from the Bible about people who were getting their priorities a little out of place.

Read: Mark 12:18-31

Reflect: What question did the Sadducees ask Jesus?

This question probably seems very confusing to us, but the answer to their question is not what is important, rather the way Jesus answered them. They were bringing Jesus a question that would be equivalent to the sand or water in our example. If we spend all our time focusing on those kinds of questions then there is no room for what is really important.

What did Jesus say in response to their question? What are the two "big rocks" Jesus says they are missing? See verse 24.

When the teacher of the law saw how well Jesus had responded to the Sadducees, what question did he ask? See verse 28. Do you think this was a rock question, a pebble question, or a sand question?

How did Jesus answer this question? What two BIG rocks is Jesus saying should be at the very top of our priority list in life? See verse 30-31

When our first priorities are loving God and loving others, all the other questions about faith and the commandments find their proper place in our lives. We will always have questions and Jesus loves for us to bring our questions to Him. Just like any good friend, He wants to know what is going on in our head, heart and life, no matter how small it seems. It is by living a life that loves God and loves others that Jesus shows us His answers to all the questions we bring Him.

Remember: Work together as a family to memorize/meditate Matthew 6:33 this week.

*But seek first HIS kingdom and HIS righteousness,
and all these things will be given to you as well.*

Ideas: Write this passage down and hang it on the refrigerator. Say it together as a family during meal time each day. Write it on a chalk or white board and erase a couple of words each day until you can say it by memory.

Respond: "Dear Jesus, thank you for welcoming our questions. Help me to see when I'm getting my priorities out of place. Help me to place the big rocks of loving you and loving others as the first priorities in my life. Amen!"