

What Really Matters To You?

Joe Slater

What things are really important to you? We know what the answer ought to be, but let's dig deeper than that. Three criteria will demonstrate what really matters to us:

TIME: All of us have equal amounts of this commodity. Every day we spend every second we have. The question is, how do we spend it? Governor Felix wanted to wait until "a convenient time" to bring his life into harmony with God's will (Acts 24:25). Too often we, like Felix, relegate God to the back burner while we spend our time doing as we please. Countless things compete for our time: job, family, school, innumerable forms of entertainment, community activities – many of these are legitimate, but where does God fit in? We spend time on things that are important to us.

MONEY: Jesus said, "Where your treasure is, there your heart will be also" (Matthew 6:21). I never cared about the stock market until, in the mid 1960s, my class at school invested in a company as part of a project. My share probably wasn't more than two or three dollars, but I went home every afternoon, found the newspaper page for the New York Stock exchange, and observed how "my" company had performed. (In case you're interested, we lost money!)

Investing not only sparks interest, it also demonstrates interest. Haggai rebuked God's people because they were spending money on their own dwellings, but leaving the temple of God in ruins (1:4). They were more interested in creature comforts than in serving God. As with time, we can find endless places and ways to spend money. What is important to you? To find the real answer, look where you spend your money!

CONVERSATION: We talk about things that interest or concern us. "Out of the abundance of the heart the mouth speaks" (Matthew 12:34). It is next to impossible to hold a conversation on a topic that doesn't interest you, or about which you know very little. We will make the effort to become informed in areas that are important to us.

Do we talk much about Jesus, the Bible, the church, etc., other than when we're together at the meeting house? Some can name every player on their favorite sports team, but can't name the twelve apostles! They know the numbers on the jerseys, but can't remember where key Bible passages are found. They can hold a lively conversation about the last game, what went right, and what went wrong; but they can't show a lost soul the Bible passages that teach how to be saved. What is important to you? Whatever you talk about.

Time, money, and conversation are three criteria by which we can discern what things are truly important to us. Let's examine ourselves honestly, and then make whatever changes are needed.

- Justin Church of Christ, Justin, TX -

Hell is truth seen too late.

News Notes

BIBLE MEDITATIONS: Monday-Friday 12:30-12:35 p.m. on WOHI 1490 AM and 103.9 FM.

CARE & SHARE BEARS: Each Tuesday, 9:00-11:00 a.m. All ladies welcome.

CONVERT'S CLASS: Each Thursday, 11:00 a.m.-Noon. Open to all.

OUR MEN'S BREAKFAST: Next Saturday, Nov. 1st, 8:00 a.m. at Coplin's in Newell.

LADIES DAY: Next Saturday, Nov. 1st, Hanoverton Church of Christ.

Registration & snacks: 8:45-9:25 a.m. **Program:** 9:30 a.m. to Lunch.

Topic: "Cooking Science", Tam Raynor, speaker. Lunch following. Additional details on the Bulletin Board.

MEN'S DAY: Next Saturday, Nov. 1st, Steelton Church of Christ, 8:00 a.m. **Continental Breakfast & Registration. Program:** 9:00 a.m.-Noon. Lunch following. Topic: "Men of God-Building Faith, Families and the Future". Three speakers. Additional details on the Bulletin Board.

TIME CHANGE: Next Saturday, Nov. 1st. **Before retiring for the night, turn your clocks BACK 1 hour** (Daylight Saving Time ends).

COVERED DISH: Next Sunday, Nov. 2nd about Noon at the Fellowship Building. Our early afternoon worship follows at 2:00 p.m. at the Church Building.

LUBECK MEN'S DAY: Saturday, Nov. 8th, 9:00 a.m.-2:00 p.m., Lubeck Church of Christ, Washington, WV. Topic: "Set In Order The Things That Are Lacking", Doug Pell, speaker. RSVP requested @www.lubeckcoc.org or call (304) 863-6504. Additional details on the Bulletin Board.

PANTRY: Cherry and Apple Pie Filling.

REMEMBER: Kinsley Hitt, 3yr. old who was bitten by a dog.

SICK & SHUT-IN: *At Home:* Peggy Linger, Scharlotte Jones, Harry Huff, Nancy Cox, Barbara DeLong, Marlene Evans, Cheryl Renfro Walker, Brian Haught (Skip's brother), Micheal Sabol (Karen Strum's daughter-in-law's father). *Serra Manor, Weirton:* Jean Haught (Skip's mother). *Fox, Chester:* Mary Johnson. *Elsewhere:* Herman McHan, 29 Jenny Lane, Columbiana, OH 44408.

GOSPEL MEETINGS

Steelton.....	Nov. 2-6.....	Roger Rush
Barnesville (E. Main)	Nov. 2-6.....	Wes McAdams