"Insight for Living" Acts 4: -1-12

A Call to Commitment

Question: why did God create man? Answer "For His Glory" John 1:1-5, Matthew 5:16

Peter and John showed that they were putting God first, people second, and material things a distant third which gave witness to the resurrection: Acts 4:32

When we put God first in everything opposition becomes of no effect. Acts 2:41, Acts 4:13-22

It is common to hear a Christian say, "I'm putting God first" Such expressions are used so often they run the risk of becoming a Christian cliché. Matthew 15:8-9, Luke 6:46-49

Putting God first means we give Him top priority over everything else. He is the principal figure in our lives and central to all we do and think. <u>Matthew 22:37</u>,

When we choose to put God first, we determine that He is more important than any other person, His Word is more valuable than any other message, and His will is weightier than any other. Galatians 2:20

The goal of the Christian life is to be pleasing God. John 8:29, Matthew 16:24

We can only live for God as a living sacrifice because we have first died and been raised to new life in Jesus Christ: (Galatians 2:20, Romans 6:12-13

Jesus commanded His disciples to teach everything He had taught them. Matthew 28:17-19

Putting first means we God keep our lives free from <u>idolatry</u> in all its forms: An idol is anything that replaces the one, true God in our hearts. <u>Judges 6:25–27</u>, <u>1 John 5:21</u>

We must tear from our hearts anything that lessens our devotion to or reverence of God. Romans 12:1

Putting God first means that we strive to follow in Jesus' steps <u>1 Peter 2:21</u>, <u>Luke 22:42</u>, <u>John 5:19; 7:16; 12:49</u>,

The Christian life is characterized by moment-to-moment selfless service to God that flows from love for Him and His people. In all things, the believer trusts, obeys, and loves God above all else. Putting God first becomes easier when we take to heart the words of Romans 11:36: