

WHO'S ON FIRST

"I am the Lord your God, who brought you out of Egypt, out of the land of slavery. ³ You shall have no other gods before me."

Exodus 20:2-3 (NIV)

❖ First Steps: Choose to Establish a STRONG FOUNDATION.

"Therefore everyone who hears these words of mine and puts them into practice is like a wise man who built his house on the rock."

Matthew 7:24 (NIV)

1. Seek GOD'S PRINCIPLES.

Hear, O Israel: The Lord our God, the Lord is one. Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your strength.

Deuteronomy 6:4 (NIV)

2. Choose to accept all of GOD'S PROMISES.

In everything you do, put God first, and He will direct you and crown your efforts with success.

Proverbs 3:6 (LB)

3. Decide to trust and follow GOD'S PLAN.

Trust in the Lord with all your heart and lean not on your own understanding; ⁶ in all of your ways acknowledge Him, and He will make your paths straight.

Proverbs 3:5-6 (NIV)

❖ Put God F.I.R.S.T. in Every Area of Your Life.

My choice is you, God, first and only.

Psalms 16:5 (MSG)

1. F. – Put God first in your FINANCES.

The purpose of tithing is to teach you to put God first in your life.

Deuteronomy 14:23 (LB)

- The Principle: Trust God with your money.

On the first day of every week, you should put aside something from what you've earned and use it for the offering.

1 Corinthians 16:2 (LB)

- The Promise: God will bless you as you choose to obey Him.

Honor the Lord by giving Him the first part of all your income,¹⁰ and He will fill your barns to overflowing.

Proverbs 3:9-10 (LB)

2. I. – Put God first in your INTERESTS.

I delight for more in what you tell me about living than in gathering a pile of riches.

Psalm 119:14 (MSG)

- The Principle: Giving your best in all you do honors God.

Whatever you do, do it all for God's glory.

1 Corinthians 10:31 (NIV)

- The Promise: The more time with Him, the more you will enjoy Him.

3. R. – Put God first in your RELATIONSHIPS.

What a man is really like is shown by the kind of friends he chooses.

Proverbs 27:19 (LB)

- The Principle: Be wise in the relationships you choose.

Do not be yoked together with unbelievers. For what do righteousness and wickedness have in common? Or what fellowship can light have with darkness?

2 Corinthians 6:14 (NIV)

- The Promise: There is one friend, Jesus, that you can always count on.

A man of many companions may come to ruin, but there is a friend who sticks closer than a brother.

Proverbs 18:24 (NIV)

4. S. – Put God first in your SCHEDULE.

Very early in the morning... Jesus got up and went off to a solitary place where He prayed.

Mark 1:35 (NIV)

- The Principle: Seek God's direction for your daily life.

Make the best use of your time... grasp firmly what you know to be the will of the Lord.

Ephesians 5:16-17 (Ph)

- The Promise: When you let God guide you, He always provides for you.

"Seek first the Kingdom of God and His righteousness and everything you need will be given unto you."

Matthew 6:33 (NIV)

5. T. – Put God first in your TROUBLES.

Jesus said, "Hard trials and temptations are bound to come..."

Luke 17:1 (MSG)

- The Principle: Troubles happen to everyone.

These troubles come to prove that your faith is pure...

1 Peter 1:7 (NCV)

- The Promise: God is bigger than any of your troubles.

"Call upon me in your day of trouble and I will deliver you and you will honor me."

Psalms 50:15 (NIV)