

Life Lessons From Common Happenings

We sometimes experience things while going about our normal pursuits which can be applied to biblical truths. One such lesson learned while packing the suitcase and car for a week-long trip was to put the big items in first and fit the smaller ones around the big ones. The space in our suitcases and cars might be compared to “time” in our spiritual lives. Our time is precious and we all have a limited amount, so what things should be given priority in our spiritual lives?

One big item in our spiritual lives should be attendance at all services of the congregation. This should be one of the first items we put on our schedules (Heb. 10:25). Missing a service of the Lord’s Church should not happen unless we can’t possibly get there.

Prayer and Bible study should have a place in our lives before our schedule is filled with less important things (1 Thess. 5:17; Heb. 2:1-3). Failure to regularly pray and study is a recipe for a spiritual decline.

Service to others, like visiting the sick and shut-ins, helping the needy, being good neighbors, etc., should be a big part of our lives (James 1:27). These things take time but they result in our laying up treasures in heaven (Matt. 6:20).

Another equivalent to space in our suitcase is our money. Our contribution to the church should have big item status in our personal and family budgets. Actually, our contribution is not what the Lord wants from us but when we give ourselves to the Lord, the money will follow (II Cor. 8:8). Each of us should seriously examine our giving in order to determine if we have, in fact, given ourselves to the Lord as we should.

Jesus requires us to prioritize our lives to conform to His teaching. He said, *Seek first the kingdom of God and His righteousness, and all these things shall be added unto you* (Matt. 6:33). Why not check your spiritual suitcase and be sure it is filled with the “big” items?

For the elders,
Don Denton