

Priorities

Spend time with those you love. One of these days you will say either, "I wish I had," or "I'm glad I did." - Zig Ziglar -

Mark your calendar!

Men's Business Meeting: Sunday, **February 8** at 2:00 p.m.

"Last Saturday in February" Workday!

Saturday, **February 15** at 8:00 a.m.

(Sign up sheet on back table)

Barnabas Group" Meeting!

Tuesday, **February 18** at 7:00 p.m. at Hudson home
(Make your "plan" to encourage someone)

"Last Saturday in February" Meeting!

Saturday, **February 22**

February Birthdays

8 Zoie Perales 18 Hazel Brouillette 24 Jonathan Munayco

(Note: if anyone is "missed" here, let Jim know)

Regular Meeting Times

Sunday.....9:45 a.m.
Sunday.....10:45 a.m.
Sunday.....6:00 p.m.
Wednesday.....7:00 p.m.

Church of Christ

81-377 Ave 46
Indio, CA 92201
(760) 342-1859

Preacher
Carlos Peña

(Address Service Requested)

Indio Informer

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A Higher Priority

By David Sargent

(adapted from Steve Goodier)

At the Olympic Games in Paris in 1924, the U.S. team was favored in the four-man canoe race. One member of that team was a young man by the name of Bill Havens. As the time for the Olympics neared, it became clear that Bill's wife would give birth to her first child about the time that Bill was scheduled to compete.

So Bill found himself in a dilemma. Should he go to Paris and risk not being at his wife's side when their first child was born? Or should he withdraw from the team and remain behind?

Bill's wife insisted that he go to Paris. After all, he had been working toward this goal for many years; it would be the culmination of a lifelong dream. After much soul searching, Bill decided to withdraw from the competition and remain behind with his wife so that he could be with her when their first child arrived. Bill considered being at her side a higher priority than going to Paris to try to win an Olympic Gold medal.

The United States four-man canoe team won the gold medal at the Paris Olympics. But Bill had no regrets. His family was more important to him than the Olympics. Bill was present when his wife gave birth to their baby boy, whom they named Frank.

Twenty-eight years later, in 1952, Bill received a cablegram from Frank. It was sent from Helsinki, Finland, where the 1952 Olympics were being held. The cablegram read:

Dear Dad,

Thanks for waiting around for me to be born in 1924.
I'm coming home with the gold medal you should have won.

Your loving son,
Frank

Frank Havens was bringing home the Olympic gold medal for the 10,000-meter canoeing event. Now he wanted to share his medal with the one who set aside his own personal dreams for a higher priority...his son.

Establishing proper priorities ultimately brings the greatest rewards...like no regrets and deeper joys. What are those "higher priorities" that need to be established in our lives? Jesus said, **"Thou shalt love the Lord thy God with all thy heart, and with all thy soul, and with all thy mind. This is the first and great commandment. And the second is like unto it, Thou shalt love thy neighbor as thyself"** (Matthew 22:37-39).

Loving God supremely and loving others unselfishly—beginning with your family! These are the top priorities! And living by these priorities brings the greater blessings.

How Do You Start the Day?

By Dave Dugan

A recent newspaper article revealed the results of a national survey taken by Robert Krups, a manufacturer of small appliances and home electronics. The survey was entitled ***Morning Habits of America*** and from the results of the survey there was listed the ***Top 10 Morning Rituals***: The top 10 activities the participants say they can't do without each morning.

- Personal hygiene (brushing teeth, washing face, taking a shower) - 84%
- Listen to the radio - 55%

- Drink coffee - 53%
- Make bed - 53% (71% women; 32% men)
- Make breakfast - 50%
- Kiss spouse - 49% (83% couples married five years or less; 56% married 10 year or more)
- Read newspaper - 35%
- Watch television - 30%
- Exercise - 22% (split evenly men and women)
- Iron clothes - 11%

To a Christian there are some things that are missing from this list. Not one word was mentioned about prayer or Bible reading. Especially in a country where according to the Gallup poll 84% believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of the living God, where 63% believe the Bible is the literal, inspired word of God and where 41% pray every day.

"How do I start my day?" is a valid question for Christians to consider. Is there prayer and Bible reading at the beginning of our daily routine? Or, is there prayer and Bible reading in our daily routine? I know many Christian who have made these two things near the top of their Top 10 Morning Rituals for all of their Christian lives.

David said, ***"My voice shalt thou hear in the morning, Oh Lord; in the morning will I direct my prayer unto thee, and will look up"*** (Psalm 5:3). He also said, ***"Evening, and morning, and at noon, will I pray, and cry aloud: and he shall hear my voice"*** (Psalm 55:17).

In the quiet of the morning we can begin our day by getting our thinking set on those things that are above (Colossians 3:1-2). We can equip ourselves just as our Lord did when He met Satan in the wilderness and resisted temptation by using the word of God (Matthew 4:1-11). We can be ready to handle the frustrations of life in a better way by beginning our day with the Lord.