



## LIFEgroup HOMEwork

Week of April 25, 2010

### **Uncompromising Purpose- Luke 4:42-44**

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In the book *Tyranny of the Urgent*, Charles E. Hummel writes, "Have you ever wished for a thirty-hour day? Surely this extra time would relieve the tremendous pressure under which we live. Our lives leave a trail of unfinished tasks. Unanswered letters, unvisited friends, unwritten articles, and unread books haunt quiet moments when we stop to evaluate. We desperately need relief.

But would a thirty-hour day really solve the problem? Wouldn't we soon be just as frustrated as we are now with our twenty-four allotment? A mother's work is never finished, and neither is that of any student, teacher, minister, or anyone else we know. Nor will the passage of time help us catch up. Children grow in number and age to require more of our time. Greater experience in profession and church brings more exacting assignments. So we find ourselves working more and enjoying it less.

At the end of Jesus' short three year ministry, He was able to say, "I have brought you glory on earth by finishing the work you gave me to do." (**John 17:4 TNIV**) The answer to the "tyranny of the urgent" is found in the life of our Lord.

**Sharing Question:** Who is an example to you of someone who has priorities in order?

**Getting Started Questions:**

Pastor Stan suggested three things we need to say "no" to:

- ❖ Say no to the enemy voices
- ❖ Say no to other people
- ❖ Say no to distractions

Which of these is most appropriate for you to take heed? Why?

When we are serious about seeking the Kingdom of God, Pastor Stan mentioned five areas where we need to say "yes" to God.

- ❖ Yes to worshipping God wholeheartedly
- ❖ Yes to spiritual maturity
- ❖ Yes to community
- ❖ Yes to service
- ❖ Yes to spreading the Good News

To which of these is God most loudly asking you to say "yes?"

Explain what you think it means to say, "The good is often the enemy of the best."

**Homework: Read Luke 4:42-44**

What principle(s) in this passage jump(s) out at you?

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**Read Mark 1:29-35**, which is a parallel passage. Who was at the door wanting to be around Jesus?

Why did Jesus leave the people for a solitary place?

Jesus knew the balance of being accessible to people, while making sure that His spiritual tank was filled by His Heavenly Father in times of solitude. Jesus knew how to prayerfully wait for His Father's instructions and for the strength needed to follow. Jesus obeyed the Father's will as it was revealed day by day. How do you go about making sure that your spiritual tank is full?

Everyone has a purpose from God. What can we learn from Paul's perspective on accomplishing his purpose from God?

**Read 1 Corinthians 9:24-27.** Describe Paul's approach to his purpose.

**Read Philippians 3:12-14.** Describe Paul's focus.

**Read Colossians 1:28-29.** Describe Paul's purpose and power source.

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Fred Mitchell, a leader in world missions, kept a motto on his desk, "Beware of the Barrenness of a Busy Life." Charles Hummel writes, "Ironically, the busier you get the more you need this time of inventory, but the less you seem to be able to take it. You become like the fanatic, who, when unsure of his direction, doubles his speed. And frenetic service for God can become an escape from God. But when you prayerfully take inventory and plan your days, it provides fresh perspective on your work." Do you agree? How does this work for you?

Read all of **Psalm 46**. Why is verse 10 so important in the context of this chapter?

**Read 2 Chronicles 20:1-12.** When faced with overwhelming challenges our natural tendency is to take matters into our own hands. What can we learn from Jehoshaphat?

**Memory Verse: Psalm 46:10 (TNIV)** *"Be still, and know that I am God; I will be exalted among the nations, I will be exalted in the earth."*



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