



God Almighty Christian
Community Services

Helping To Put It Together...
And To Keep It That Way!

47448 Pontiac Trail Ste. 337
Wixom, MI 48393

P.O. Box 930515
Wixom, MI 48393

Empowerment Parenting Workshop
Beatrice Smith, LMSW, Certified Biblical Counselor

Having Your Priorities Straight Will Help You To Be A Successful Parent

God has

- **Created us**
- **Loves us**
- **Has made provisions for us**
- **Has forgiven us**
- **Has saved**
- **And has promised us eternal life – if we receive Christ as our Savior.**

But if we fail to get our priorities straight in life, we will be miserable, totally unhappy and overwhelmed with grief and sadness.

Before you can think about meeting the needs of your husband, family or even work, you must first seek God. I know you have heard this before, but have you really given it true consideration?

You are wondering:

- Why is my life in shambles?
- Why are my children out of control?
- What is going on with me that I can't get it together?
- Why is it that my relationship with my husband is not fulfilling me?
- Why is there not enough time for me to do the things I want to do in life?

Well, it is all based on priorities. Do you have the right things in order?

For just a few minutes close your eyes and be honest with your self. In the last week, how much time have you given towards your relationship with God. No, I am not talking about how much time you have spent in Church. I am talking about your relationship with God.

Turn with me to Matthew 6:33.

I know you have read it before, but let's give it some thought today. These are Christ's words and all of us need wisdom from the Lord because we have made such a mess of our lives.

Matthew 6:33

But seek ye first the kingdom of God and his righteousness, and these things shall be added unto you.

The Living Bible starting with verse 31 says.

“So don’t worry at all about having enough food and clothing. Why be like the heathen or unsaved? For they take pride in all these things and are deeply concerned about them. But your heavenly Father already knows perfectly well that you need them and he will give them to you if you give Him first place in your life and live as He wants you to. “

Notice He did not say, give your husband first place, your children or your job. He did not even say, give yourself first place, **but Him.**

That does not mean that you stay on your face all day, everyday neglecting your responsibility, not feeding your children, not cleaning your house, and not going out to pay your bills. It means that God is your consultant in everything. It means that understanding His word becomes your priority because it is your road map for living. It also means that you don’t interpret the signs on this road map as you chose to because you have decided to do things your way so you can still appear to be this great spiritual person.

Your Relationship With God Is Your First Priority!

So even when you think that

- your husband may be unfaithful,
- your bills are overwhelming,
- your supervisors is out to get you,
- people within the church are mistreating you, or
- that disease and debt is trying to take over you

your first priority it to respond to these problems in such a way that is pleasing to God.

You must be a doer of the word and not just someone who hears the word as talked about in James 1:22.

Your Next Priority Is Your Mate.

You must work on the relationship with your spouse. It is like any other living thing, it must be watered and fed, pruned and dug around. You must work at it, but again with God as your consultant. Realized that your feelings are separate from his. He may be having a bad day but you don’t have to, if you get your focus right. Trust God with all your heart and don’t lean on your own understanding. Leaning on your own understanding has gotten you into nothing but trouble in the past, so why do you think it will not now.

God knew what He was doing when he wrote Proverbs 3:5-6

Trust in the Lord with all thine heart, and lean not unto thine own understanding. In all they ways acknowledge Him, and He will direct thy path.

So when anxious feelings come on you that usually cause you to do foolish things in your relationship, pray immediately and give it to God and trust Him to work it out – don’t start acting on your feelings. It is a trick of the devil. He will make you think that you have to say some things that should never be said openly to anyone. Don’t let the devils thoughts be your thoughts.

Your Next Priority Is Your Family

If God has blessed you with children, you must raise them as he has instructed. Don't cheat your family by not seeking a true understanding of God's word and expectations for you in caring for your children. Laziness will cause you to have problems with your children now and later.

- Trying to give direction from your bed will not work!
- Not spending time with your children will not work!
- Trying to live through your teenager will not work!

Just as God allows us to grow and teach us things, we must allow this for our children. He does not deprive us of His time, but he also allows us an opportunity to learn some things on our own. Study God's word and learn His character and attempt to follow His parenting pattern. Your children are not your possessions to be used to impress others or to just bring you satisfaction.

Understand what Philippians 2:3-4 says:

Let nothing be done through strife or vainglory, but in lowliness of mind let each esteem others better than themselves. Look not every man on his own things, but every man also on the things of others.

Your Last Priority Is Work.

Study Gods word and learn how to deal with people. This will help you in the workplace. A lot of our problems at work are because we refuse to follow God's laws at work. Even as Christian we think we can take off our Christian clothing and do what ever we want on the job. Realize that you will reap that which you have sown. Disobedience in any part of life will be responded to regardless whether you claim to be a Christian or Not. Make sure God is your consultant in the workplace and not your own fleshly desire to appear like you are more Godly but refusing to use God's power and follow His word. **How you respond to your workplace responsibility will impact how your child views his responsibility to complete tasks.**

So Your Priorities Should be :

**GOD
SPOUSE
FAMILY
WORK**

(Matthew 22:6; I Corinthians 1:10; Philippians 2:3-5; Ecclesiastes 9:12; Ephesians 5:28)