

When You put God First

December 18, 2021

NARRATION

Do you remember when you put God first despite your fear and uncertainty about the future? What can we learn from your story that will help the rest of us put God first in our own lives today?

Do you remember when you fell in love with Jesus for the first time? For each of us is a different experience, but we all have that first moment when we were overwhelmed by the love of Jesus. Nothing mattered more to you than following Jesus and acknowledging Him as king over your life when this happened

You made every sacrifice to keep the Sabbath holy; you ate the right things and read the right books. You watched the right videos and resisted the wrong music. You avoided bad websites and longed to pray and talk to your God.

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Unfortunately for you and your family, that didn't last long. Your first love faded, and a war began between guilt and grace that would last until today. What would you give to get back to that first love you once had?

Among many things we possess, two things are at the center of our lives and they can keep us on the right path when well managed. They are your time and your money. These are your most valued treasure and, unless you put them in the kingdom of God first, there is no other way of giving your heart fully to Jesus.

Here is how Jesus himself put it: "Do not lay up for yourselves treasures on earth, where moth and rust destroy and where thieves break in and steal; but lay up for yourselves treasures in heaven, where neither moth nor rust destroys and where thieves do not break in and steal. For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also" (Matthew 6:19–21).

The world has convinced many of us that our heart comes first. This is why we always wait to feel like doing something before we do it. We will never feel like giving tithes and offerings unless we do it consistently because our hearts will only be in the kingdom of God if that is where we invest our time and money.

GRAPHICS AND CLIPS

Images related to the text and animation.

NARRATION

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If you want to experience that first love again, start returning God's tithe faithfully today. With prayer, designate another percentage of your income to be regularly returned to God as an offering (it is your 'Promise' offering). Spend time reading God's word and pray. Dedicate your time to helping to fulfill the church's mission and alleviate the suffering of others. Tithe, 'Promise' offering, worship, mission, compassion. Start doing this whether you feel like it or not. Then observe over the next few weeks how much your love for God will increase and how much easier it will be to follow Jesus.

"For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also."
Matthew 6:21.

GRAPHICS AND CLIPS

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You have put God first. Your faith inspires us today. Jesus gave up everything to redeem us, and His love compels us to put His kingdom first in our own lives. As we return the tithe and Promise, we are challenged to put God first.

Text animation