

### Introduction: The challenge of busyness

#### I. Six symptoms of misplaced priorities

1. \_\_\_\_\_ – the activity trap.
2. \_\_\_\_\_ stress and pressure.
3. Low grade \_\_\_\_\_.
4. \_\_\_\_\_ debt.
5. \_\_\_\_\_ – “Leakage in your devotional life.”
6. \_\_\_\_\_ behavior.

## II. An overview of Biblical priorities

### “The twin Epistles”

TOPIC	COLOSSIANS	EPHESIANS
God	3:1-7	5:1-20
Mate	3:18-19	5:21-33
Family	3:20-21	6:1-4
Work	3:22-4:1	6:5-9
Ministry	4:2-6	6:10-20

## III. Two words hold the keys to enjoying the peace & power of a prioritized life

### A. Your \_\_\_\_\_

*<sup>10</sup> The length of our days is seventy years – or eighty, if we have the strength; yet their span is but trouble and sorrow, for they quickly pass, and we fly away. <sup>11</sup> Who knows the power of Your anger? For Your wrath is as great as the fear that is due You. <sup>12</sup> Teach us to number our days aright, that we may gain a heart of wisdom.*

Psalm 90:10-12

*<sup>15</sup> Therefore be careful how you walk, not as unwise men, but as wise, <sup>16</sup> making the most of your time, because the days are evil. <sup>17</sup> So then do not be foolish, but understand what the will of the Lord is.*

Ephesians 5:15-17

## Keeping Love Alive, Volume 3

Four Challenges Great  
Marriages Have in Common

(Part 1)

## Challenge #1 - Busyness

Matthew 6:33

### Application:

1. Give your first and \_\_\_\_\_ to God.

2. 2PROAPT = 20 minutes a day.

P – Pray

P – Preview

R – Read

O – Observe

A – Apply

P – Pray

T – Tell

B. Your \_\_\_\_\_

Proverbs 3:9-10

### Application: Four commitments

1. \_\_\_\_\_ the first portion of each paycheck to God.

2. \_\_\_\_\_ your bills next.

3. \_\_\_\_\_ on the rest.

4. \_\_\_\_\_ of debt.

### **Discussion Questions:**

1. How would you define priority? What would a 'prioritized life' look like?
2. What are some of the negative consequences of failing to live by God's priorities? Which of the six symptoms did you identify with most?
3. Whose "best interest" does God have in mind when He teaches us to live according to Biblical priorities?
4. Why does our use of time and money most accurately reflect our real priorities?
5. Lasting change demands deep, prolonged thinking. What priorities need to change in your life? Set aside some significant time this week to think through and discuss your priorities with a close friend.