



Part 3: Good Priorities

Jesus made it very clear what God's priorities are. He left no question that caring for those in need is a top priority and if that's true of God, it needs to be true for us too.

Discussion Questions

1. When have you seen someone make a big deal out of something small while missing something much more important? What happened?
2. Read Matthew 23:23-24. Why do you think Jesus calls justice, mercy, and faithfulness the "weightier matters"? What makes them weightier than things like tithing herbs? Jesus says, "These you ought to have done, without neglecting the others." What balance is he calling for here?
3. Where are you most tempted to focus on the "small things" of religion while avoiding the harder, heavier things?
4. Discuss what each of the following terms means: justice, mercy and faithfulness. Which of the three comes most naturally to you? Which feels most challenging? Why? The prophets say worship without justice is offensive to God. Why do you think that is?
5. Where might these principles be applicable in our culture or in your own life? Is it easier for you to feel outrage about injustice or to actually engage with people who are suffering? Why?
6. Where do you have influence—work, home, church, finances—where you could advocate for fairness or care for vulnerable people? Who in your actual life is hurting or overlooked right now? What would "moving toward" them look like this week? What habits could help you make this a lifestyle rather than a one-time emotional response?

Moving Forward

What is one concrete step you will take this week to practice good priorities? Pray for one another specifically by name and situation.