

Living a Christ-Centered Life

LESSON 17: A Life Focused on More Important Things

In Chapter 17 there are three main teachings of Jesus that help a disciple focus on more important things. As we have already discussed, we easily lose our spiritual, heavenly focus.

Jesus gives three new challenges to our focus. If we focus on how people hurt us; or our ailments; or think we have all the time in the world to get our life of faith going – we will not be Christ-focused or ready for his return.

Question to consider:

1. We've done this before, but once again...what competes with Jesus for your focus?
2. What do you do personally to keep focus or re-focus your life on the most important things?

Word Study Challenge: What do these words mean in the context? Any cross references?
V.3 "Watch yourselves"

V.10 "Unworthy"

What do the following excerpts from Luke 17 teach on focus?

Read 17:1-10 Always do your duty.

People who offend us or cause us to sin will always be around. We often let them be an excuse to not forgive; or for not being faithful ourselves. Why do we let people hurt our faith and dedication to Jesus? How do we overcome this?

Jesus' parable about a servant who serves the master first, then takes care of himself last sounds harsh. How does it answer the disciples question of "increase our faith"?

Read 17:11-19 Be thankful for God's help and healing.

How does sickness compete with our focus on Jesus? Is this natural? Is it a sin? How do you keep focus on Christ while struggling physically?

Describe the connection of faith and healing.

Read 17: 20-37 Live your life in readiness for the Lord's return.

Jesus states the Kingdom is not something physical, it is spiritual. It is "in you." What does this mean? How is this possible?

Jesus gives examples of not being ready for the kingdom to come inside us and for the Lord's return. His last statement is "Where there is a dead body, there the vultures will gather." What does this mean? What is the warning?