

*Compassionate
Recovery*

Lesson #21



TAKING A CLOSER LOOK
Priorities, Integrity, Family & Church Life

THE HEART OF THE LIFE ASSESSMENT PRINCIPLES

PURSUE truth about our relationships with God, self, and others by taking honest, comprehensive assessments of our lives.

ACKNOWLEDGE the value of making amends with those we have harmed.

SEARCH OUT the true meaning of biblical forgiveness in order to work towards forgiving those that have harmed us God's way.

STAND FIRMLY on God's word to identify other areas from our assessments that we recognize need to change.

BIBLICAL BLUEPRINTS FOR OUR LIVES

WHAT GOD DESIRES FOR INTEGRITY

The Consistency in my private and public life

²⁰ *Oh, guard my soul, and deliver me!
Let me not be put to shame, for I take refuge in
you.*²¹ *May integrity and uprightness preserve me,
for I wait for you.* **Psalm 25:20-21**

*Whoever walks in integrity walks securely, but he who
makes his ways crooked will be found out.* **Proverbs 10:9**

[and "suddenly fall" Proverbs 28:18]

*The righteous who walks in his integrity—blessed are
his children after him!* **Proverbs 20:7**

*Whoever walks in integrity will be delivered, but he
who is crooked in his ways will suddenly fall.* **Proverbs
28:18**

⁷ *Show yourself in all respects to be a model of good
works, and in your teaching show integrity, dignity,
⁸ and sound speech that cannot be condemned, so that
an opponent may be put to shame, having nothing evil
to say about us.* **Titus 2:7-8**

WHAT GOD DESIRES FOR THE EXAMPLE I SET FOR MY FAMILY

*Whoever troubles his own household will inherit only
wind...* **Proverbs 11:29a**

*Whoever is greedy for unjust gain troubles his own
household ...* **Proverbs 15:27a**

*If anyone does not provide for his relatives, and
especially for his immediate family, he has denied the
faith and is worse than an unbeliever.* **1 Timothy 5:8**

*"...But as for me and my house,
we will serve the Lord."* **Joshua 24:15b**

⁴ *"Hear, O Israel: The Lord our God, the Lord is
one.* ⁵ *You shall love the Lord your God with all your
heart and with all your soul and with all your
might.* ⁶ *And these words that I command you today shall
be on your heart.* ⁷ *You shall teach them diligently to your
children and shall talk of them when you sit in your
house, and when you walk by the way, and when you lie
down, and when you rise.* ⁸ *You shall bind them as a sign
on your hand, and they shall be as frontlets between your
eyes.* ⁹ *You shall write them on the doorposts of your
house and on your gates.* **Deuteronomy 6:4-8**

WHAT GOD DESIRES FOR ME TO BE MORE INVOLVED IN A LOCAL CHURCH

²⁴ *And let us consider how to stir up **ONE ANOTHER** to love
and good works,* ²⁵ *not neglecting to meet together, as
is the habit of some, but encouraging **ONE ANOTHER**,
and all the more as you see the Day drawing near.*
Hebrews 10:25

⁷ *But grace was given to each one of us
according to the measure of Christ's gift.*

¹¹ *And he gave the apostles, the prophets,
the evangelists, the shepherds and teachers*

¹² *to equip the saints for the work of ministry,
for building up the body of Christ,* ¹³ *until we all attain
to the unity of the faith and of the knowledge of the Son
of God, to mature manhood, to the measure of the
stature of the fullness of Christ,* ¹⁴ *so that we may no
longer be children, tossed to and fro by the waves and
carried about by every wind of doctrine, by human
cunning, by craftiness in deceitful schemes.*

¹⁵ *Rather, speaking the truth in love, we are to grow up
in every way into him who is the head, into
Christ,* ¹⁶ *from whom the whole body, joined and held
together by every joint with which it is equipped, when
each part is working properly, makes the body grow so
that it builds itself up in love.* **Ephesians 4:7-16**

WAYS TO GET MORE INVOLVED IN A LOCAL CHURCH:

- **Attend a Bible-believing/teaching church more regularly.**
- **Be baptized.**
- **Attend a bible study or Life Group.**
- **Use your abilities to help in a ministry.**
- **Become a member.**

WHAT GOD DESIRES FOR MY PRIORITIES:

LIVING BY A GOD-HONORING TREASURE MINDSET

¹⁹ “Do not store up for yourselves treasures on earth, where moths and vermin destroy, and where thieves break in and steal. ²⁰ But store up for yourselves treasures in heaven, where moths and vermin do not destroy, and where thieves do not break in and steal. ²¹ For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also. ²⁴ “No one can serve two masters. Either you will hate the one and love the other, or you will be devoted to the one and despise the other. You cannot serve both God and money. **Matthew 6:19-21, 24**

³¹ Therefore do not be anxious, saying, ‘What shall we eat?’ or ‘What shall we drink?’ or ‘What shall we wear?’ ³² For the Gentiles seek after all these things, and your heavenly Father knows that you need them all.

³³ But seek first the kingdom of God and his righteousness, and all these things will be added to you.

³⁴ “Therefore do not be anxious about tomorrow, for tomorrow will be anxious for itself. Sufficient for the day is its own trouble. **Matthew 6:31-34**

⁶ But godliness with contentment is great gain, ⁷ for we brought nothing into the world, and we cannot take anything out of the world. ⁸ But if we have food and clothing, with these we will be content. **1 Timothy 6:6-8**

See also: Job 1:21-22, Ecclesiastes 5:15

⁹ But those who desire to be rich fall into temptation, into a snare, into many senseless and harmful desires that plunge people into ruin and destruction. ¹⁰ For the love of money is a root of all kinds of evils. It is through this craving that some have wandered away from the faith and pierced themselves with many pangs. **1 Timothy 6:9-10**

³⁸ Now as they went on their way, Jesus entered a village. And a woman named Martha welcomed him into her house. ³⁹ And she had a sister called Mary, who sat at the Lord's feet and listened to his teaching. ⁴⁰ But Martha was distracted with much serving.

And she went up to him and said, “Lord, do you not care that my sister has left me to serve alone? Tell her then to help me.” ⁴¹ But the Lord answered her, “Martha, Martha, you are anxious and troubled

about many things,⁴² but one thing is necessary. Mary has chosen the good portion, which will not be taken away from her.” **Luke 10:38-42**

¹⁰The years of our life are seventy, or even by reason of strength eight; yet their span is but toil and trouble; they are soon gone, and we fly away. ¹²So teach us to number our days that we may get a heart of wisdom. **Psalm 90:10, 12**

¹⁵ Look carefully then how you walk, not as unwise but as wise, ¹⁶ making the best use of the time, because the days are evil. ¹⁷ Therefore do not be foolish but understand what the will of the Lord is. **Ephesians 5:15-17**

¹This is how one should regard us, as servants of Christ and stewards of the mysteries of God. ² Moreover, it is required of stewards that they be found faithful. ³ But with me it is a very small thing that I should be judged by you or by any human court. In fact, I do not even judge myself. ⁴ For I am not aware of anything against myself, but I am not thereby acquitted. It is the Lord who judges me. ⁵ Therefore do not pronounce judgment before the time, before the Lord comes, who will bring to light the things now hidden in darkness and will disclose the purposes of the heart. Then each one will receive his commendation from God. **1 Corinthians 4:1-5**

¹⁰ As each has received a gift, use it to serve one another, as good stewards of God's varied grace: ¹¹ whoever speaks, as one who speaks oracles of God; whoever serves, as one who serves by the strength that God supplies—in order that in everything God may be glorified through Jesus Christ. To him belong glory and dominion forever and ever. Amen. **1 Peter 4:10-11**

“The kingdom of heaven is like treasure hidden in a field, which a man found and covered up. Then in his joy he goes and sells all that he has and buys that field.” **Matthew 13:44**

1. Everything is God's, but He sovereignly entrusts each of us with varying amounts of resources - some more, some less - including, but not limited to:

- **a body**
- **a life on earth with a pre-determined amount of time**
- **relationships**
- **natural abilities**
- **spiritual gifts**
- **material things, etc.**

to manage and use, but not to own, according to our free-will allocations.

2. True disciples of Jesus know that earth is just a temporary address with our permanent residence and citizenship being in a future better and eternal place with Jesus and His family.

3. Our hearts will always be where our treasures are at, and our priorities will directly tie to how much we allocate resources to self and earthly things and how much we value investing resources in God's eternal Kingdom.
4. We should not live today for "a dot" that could represent our present life on earth, but for "a line" that goes on forever and represents eternity after our time on earth.
5. When God entrusts us with more resources than we need for this life, He does so with the expectation we give generously and joyfully for His glory and in His name to meet the needs of others and to complete His Kingdom work, opening doors to meet people where they are in order to help move them closer to where God would have them to be.
6. Freely and joyfully investing the resources we have been entrusted with is to surrender to a Greater Person and a greater agenda that dethrones us and exalts Jesus Christ.

HOW WILL YOU DEMONSTRATE GODLY TREASURE?

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • In Forgiving Others • In Making Amends • Yielding Your Body to God • Thinking God's Thoughts • Having Christlike Attitudes 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Living with Godly Priorities • Living with Integrity • Having a Godly Impact on Your Family • Being Proactively Invested in a Church
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"You'll get through this. It won't be painless. And it won't be quick. But God will use this mess for good. In the meantime, don't be foolish or naïve. Don't despair either. With God's help, you will get through this."

(Max Lucado)

**Weekly Going Deeper Study Guide
Week #21 for Life Assessments**

- Before beginning each day simply ask God to help you see things that He would have you to see.
- When finished, pray again asking for the faith and the courage to follow His lead in areas He speaks to you about.

THIS WEEK :

Continue to work on your Life Assessments.

Be systematic as described on from p. 13 in the Life Assessment Workbook.