



Keep The Main Thing The Main Thing

By Paul Jetter, Pastor of Upper Valley Community Church, Piqua, Ohio
<http://www.uvcc.info>

A newly-hired consultant rushed into the personnel manager's office and demanded, "I need to know which employees are approaching retirement age."

The personnel manager replied, "All of them. Not one of them is going the other way!"

Good answer. From the moment a person is born he begins to move toward the day of his death. The Bible says, "*Man springs up like a flower and then withers away; like a fleeting shadow, he does not endure.*" (Job 14:2)

But while time is limited for everyone, everyone has all the time that there is. Last year, everyone had twenty-four hours each day, seven days each week, and fifty-two weeks in the year.

This year will not be any different. Everyone who lives to the next New Year will have all the time there is.

Tension arises when people try to fit more things into their schedule than there is time. Since they already have all the time there is, the only thing left to do is to try and compress what they are doing into smaller time blocks.

The result is a rat race of running from one event to another, guzzling down fast food, and missing out on the most important things in life – things like relationships, love, faith and inner peace.

The secret of life is to keep the main thing the main thing. And what is the main thing? For a Christian, it is doing God's will.

The only way that anyone can do God's will and avoid a life of tension is to learn to say "No" at the right times. People who do not learn to say "No" get their lives so full of events and activities that they cannot say "Yes" when better things come along.

God does not give us bonus points if we cram so much into our schedule that we have ulcers. But neither is God pleased if we develop a selfish schedule that includes everything we want to do and little that He wants us to do.

Often, the struggle for a Christian is not between doing something good and doing something bad, but between doing something good and doing something better. Sadly, many people run out of time before the best things in life are accomplished.

The reason a Christian should not run out of time is because he sets priorities in his life. At the top of the list are worshipping God and giving proper attention to one's spouse and children.

People with priorities in their lives cannot involve their children in every activity and sport, cannot participate in every social event, and cannot keep up with all the gadgets and electronic gear that becomes available. But by uncluttering their lives they are able to slow down and smell the roses along the way.

The Bible says, "*Whatever you do, whether in word or deed, do it all in the name of the Lord Jesus. Make the most of every opportunity.*" (Colossians 3:17 and 4:4).

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