

But examine everything carefully; hold fast to that which is good; abstain from every form of evil.

1Thessalonians 5:21-22

Store In My Heart

Matthew 6:33

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

Considered within the context of the Sermon on the Mount, which gives instruction to help us be citizens of the Kingdom of God, Jesus reminds us of what must be most important to those who desire to be with God. With this statement, He also give promise of God's watch and care over His children.

The intent is to help us keep our focus on what is most important. Rather than being distracted by the things of this world, we can focus on the work God has given us. God will see that we have what is needed to do the work, if we will just set our minds to be busy for Him. Am I willing to turn everything over to God and focus solely on what He expects of me?



“Be Careful Little Eyes”

Dan Henderson

An old Cherokee told his grandson, "My son, there is a battle between two wolves inside us all. One is evil. It is anger, jealousy, greed, resentment, inferiority, lies and ego. The other is Good. It is joy, peace, love, hope, humility, kindness, empathy and truth." The boy thought about it, and asked, "Grandfather, which wolf wins?" The old man quietly replied, "The one you feed."

My Grandmother worked in the school lunchroom for many years while I was growing up. While we never attended the school system where she worked, we did hear from her many of the things they used to encourage the children to eat healthy. "You are what you eat" was a slogan that was very prominent in those days. Grandmother had stickers with that slogan that were left over at the end of the year and so we got them when we visited during the summer. While I do not always eat as I should, that slogan has always stuck with me. It applies to more than nourishment of the body though. It applies equally well to the feeding of our mind and soul.

Do you remember a song from childhood Bible classes about being careful? "Oh, Be Careful Little Eyes What You See" taught us this principle very early in life. We need to be very careful to expose ourselves to things that will bring us closer to God.

Paul told Timothy ...

"Do your best to present yourself to God as one approved, a worker who has no need to be ashamed, rightly handling the word of truth." **2Timothy 2:15**

He also told him to ...

"continue in what you have learned...from childhood you have been acquainted with the sacred writings, which are able to make you wise for salvation..." **2Timothy 3:14-17**

When Paul spoke to the Ephesian elders for the last time he pointed them to God's Word for all that they needed. **Acts 20:32**

Contact Us

We want opportunities to speak with others about the Lord's Kingdom.

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For Our Information

Adene Gray is doing some better as she recovers from a recent fall.

Bill Venable is in Jonesboro today. Theresa and John LaValla are in Southaven MS. John plans to stay for about a week. The Simpson Family is in Star City this weekend.

Tonight we start our study near 1Kings 6:7.

Wednesday we will begin our study in 2Thessalonians 2:16.

Pray for safety, courage & healing.

What are we using to fill our minds? I know those TV shows are funny or suspenseful, but what are they turning our mind toward. **"You are what you WATCH!"** The latest series of teen age 'life direction' books may be full of good relationships and loving families, but are they filling your mind with righteous thoughts? Also, many religious writers may have some nuggets of truth, but they are filled with teaching that would turn us away from being careful to keep God's commands. If you are soaking up what you read, which direction will such writings point you? **"You are what you READ!"** Most of us enjoy, or at least feel a need for, spending time with our co-workers/friends on breaks or at mealtime during the work/school day. Do you ever consider the direction of most of those conversations? **"You are what you HEAR!"** Are they drawing you closer to God?

"Draw near to God, and he will draw near to you. Cleanse your hands, you sinners, and purify your hearts, you double-minded." **James 4:8**

"Keep your heart with all vigilance, for from it flow the springs of life." **Proverbs 4:23**

We need to give close attention to what we are putting into our mind. Our spiritual well-being is dependent upon keeping our minds close to God. We all want to live without anger, jealousy, greed, etc. Yet we often engage in activities that feed those things. If we feed that side of the battle it will grow stronger. We need to feed our minds with those things that promote joy, peace, humility, etc. These are the things God has given us in the Word delivered by the Comforter at the direction of the Savior. Fill your heart and mind with Truth and your life will be filled with joy, kindness, peace and love.

"Blessed is the man who walks not in the counsel of the wicked, nor stands in the way of sinners, nor sits in the seat of scoffers; but his delight is in the law of the LORD, and on his law he meditates day and night. He is like a tree planted by streams of water that yields its fruit in its season, and its leaf does not wither. In all that he does, he prospers." **Psalms 1:1-3**

(I am not sure when I wrote this article, but I know that it's message is still one that we need to hear. We could also add the need for caution regarding political parties and rhetoric, health advice, financial instruction, science discovery, etc. While many of these things may seem innocent or even instructive, as Christians we need to be careful to keep our focus on God and His work above anything in this world. If "... seek first His kingdom and His righteousness ..." applies to food and clothing, it certainly would apply to the things listed above.

Nothing is more important than keeping our minds and bodies focused on the work God has given us. We cannot glorify God if our minds are focused on the things of this world. I must continually ask myself, "Am I filled with God's Light, or other things taking up too much space?" DLH)



We seek only to serve God according to His Will!