

## First Things First - 02/10/19

**TEXT – 1 Co 15:1-4** *Moreover, brethren, I declare unto you the gospel which I preached unto you, which also ye have received, and wherein ye stand; 2 By which also ye are saved, if ye keep in memory what I preached unto you, unless ye have believed in vain. 3 For I delivered unto you **first of all** that which I also received, how that Christ died for our sins according to the scriptures; 4 And that he was buried, and that he rose again the third day according to the scriptures:*

**INTRO – An idiom - first things first -Said when one thing needs to be prioritized over others**

**There are first steps at different stages of our lives.**

"You can do anything...but before you can do anything, you have to do something." *First Things First shows you how to stop looking at the clock and start looking at the compass, by figuring out what's important, prioritizing those things in your life, developing a vision for the future, building the right relationships and becoming a strong leader wherever you go.*

**Some things are Urgent but not important**

**Some things are not urgent and not important**

**Some things are not urgent but important**

**Some things are urgent and important**

### I. The First Step Is Salvation

**1 Cor. 15:1-4 esp. vs. 3** *For I delivered unto you first of all that which I also received, how that Christ died for our sins according to the scriptures;*

**A. You can't be spiritual without salvation**

**B. Procrastination is rejection**

### II. The First Step For A New Believer

**Heb. 5:12** *For when for the time ye ought to be teachers, ye have need that one teach you again which be the first principles of the oracles of God; and are become such as have need of milk, and not of strong meat.*

**A. Baptism**

**B. Church membership**

**C. Learning the Bible**

**D. Service**

### III. The First Step To Worship

**1 Tim. 2:1** *I exhort therefore, that, first of all, supplications, prayers, intercessions, and giving of thanks, be made for all men;*

**A. Prayer**

**B. Bible reading**

**C. Church attendance**

### **D. Witnessing**

**I settled these long ago**

### IV. The First Step of Discipleship

**Luke 14:28-29** *For which of you, intending to build a tower, sitteth not down first, and counteth the cost, whether he have sufficient to finish it? 29 Lest haply, after he hath laid the foundation, and is not able to finish it, all that behold it begin to mock him,*

**A. There is a cost**

1. Giving up the world

2. Sacrificing your time

3. Fighting the good fight

**B. Stepping out in faith**

### V. The First Step of Stewardship

**2 Co 8:5** *And this they did, not as we hoped, but first gave their own selves to the Lord, and unto us by the will of God.*

**Mat 6:33** *But seek ye first the kingdom of God, and his righteousness; and all these things shall be added unto you.*

**1Co 16:2** *Upon the first day of the week let every one of you lay by him in store, as God hath prospered him, that there be no gatherings when I come.*

**A. God owns everything**

**B. Tithing**

**C. Giving to missions**

**D. Benevolence**

### VI. The First Step To Backsliding

**Rev 2:4-5** *Nevertheless I have somewhat against thee, because thou hast left thy first love. 5 Remember therefore from whence thou art fallen, and repent, and do the first works; or else I will come unto thee quickly, and will remove thy candlestick out of his place, except thou repent.*

**A. Losing your love for God**

**B. Losing your involvement little by little**

### VII. The First Step For Revival

**1 Pe 4:17** *For the time is come that judgment must begin at the house of God: and if it first begin at us, what shall the end be of them that obey not the gospel of God?*

**A. Humility**

**B. Prayer**

**C. Seeking God**

**D. Repentance**

**E. Healing**

**F. Forgiveness**

**CONCL –**

Bob had finally made it to the last round of the \$64,000 Question. The night before the big question, he told the Emcee that he desired a question on American History.

The big night had arrived. Bob made his way on stage in front of the studio and TV audience. He had become the talk of the week. He was the best guest this show had ever seen. The Emcee stepped up to the mic.

"Bob, you have chosen American History as your final question. You know that if you correctly answer this question, you will walk away \$64,000 dollars richer. Are you ready?"

Bob nodded with a cocky confidence - the crowd went nuts. He hadn't missed a question all week.

"Bob, your question on American History is a two-part question. As you know, you may answer either part first. As a rule, the second half of the question is always easier. Which part would you like to take a stab at first?"

Bob was now becoming more noticeably nervous. He couldn't believe it, but he was drawing a blank. American History was his easiest subject, but he played it safe.

"I'll try the second part first."

The Emcee nodded approvingly. "Here we go Bob. I will ask you the second half first, then the first half."

The audience silenced with gross anticipation...

"Bob, here is your question: And in what year did it happen??"