February 15, 2015

5 Things You Can’t Live Without
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- In This Life There Are
  *Things That We Think We Can’t Live Without*

  And There Are

  *Things We Really Can’t Live Without!!*
Essential #1: THE WORD OF GOD:

1 Peter 1:23-25 (NIV)  

(23) For you have been born again, not of perishable seed, but of imperishable, through the living and enduring word of God.  

(24) For, "All men are like grass, and all their glory is like the flowers of the field; the grass withers and the flowers fall,  

(25) but the word of the Lord stands forever." And this is the word that was preached to you.
5 Things You Can’t Live Without

- We Cannot Live Spiritually Without God’s Word
- God’s Holy Word Is Our Spiritual Sustenance
- 1 Peter 2:2 (NIV) Like newborn babies ... crave pure spiritual milk, so that by it you may grow up in your salvation,
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- God’s Word Reveals
  - God’s Heart
  - God’s Will
  - God’s Ways
  - God’s Plan

- In God’s Word There Is An Unending Supply Of Life, Hope, Joy, Direction, & Guidance
Essential #2: PRAYER

What Is Prayer?

Prayer is communication with God – prayer is talking to Him.

“Prayer is spending our personal time with God so that we can grow and develop in our relationship with Him.”
WHY DO WE PRAY?

- Prayer Brings Victory (Eph 6:12-13,18)
- Prayer Brings God’s Answer (Lk 11:3-13; Jas 4:2)
- Prayer Summons God’s Grace (Heb. 4:16)
- Prayer Brings God’s Peace (Phil 4:6-7)
The Greatest Example Of Why We Pray Is Jesus

(Luke 5:16 NIV) But Jesus often withdrew to lonely places and prayed.
WHY DID JESUS HAVE TO PRAY?

- Jesus Was Not Only God -- He Was Also Man
- He Prayed To Keep His Flesh In Alignment With God’s Spirit
- He Prayed So That He Could Know And Act On The Will Of God
- He Prayed So That He Might Maintain His Total Dependence On God
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**TRUTHS THAT JESUS TAUGHT US ABOUT PRAYER:**

- Get Alone And Pray
- Pray Before Making Important Decisions
- Pray When Under The Pressure Of Ministry
- Pray When Concerned About The Lives Of Others
- Pray When Tempted
- Pray When In Pain
- Pray When In Death’s Grip

**BOTTOM LINE:** *If Jesus Prayed During All Seasons Of His Life -- We Too Ought To Pray*
FOUR REASONS WE SHOULD PRAY

1. Prayer Can Keep Us From Temptation
2. Prayer Can Help Us To Act On The Will Of God
3. Prayer Can Keep Us Dependent Upon God
4. Prayer Will Keep Us Right with God
“It Is Impossible For A Believer, No Matter What His Experience, To Keep Right With God If He Will Not Take The Trouble To Spend Time With God.

Spend Plenty Of Time With Him; Let Other Things Go, But Don’t Neglect Him.”

Oswald Chambers
Essential #3: WORSHIP

- What Is Worship?
- "Worship Is Whole-heartedly Giving Ourselves To God; Spirit, Soul, And Body"
- True Worship Encompasses Everything That We Do In All Of Life
“Worship Is Giving To God The Best He Has Given Us”  Oswald Chambers

Worship Is The Mark Of A True Believer
  ▪ It Is Our Greatest Function In Life
  ▪ It Is Our Priority
  ▪ It Is Our Calling
  ▪ It Is Our Life Line
Luke 10:38-42 (NIV) (38) As Jesus and his disciples were on their way, he came to a village where a woman named Martha opened her home to him. (39) She had a sister called Mary, who sat at the Lord's feet listening to what he said. (40) But Martha was distracted by all the preparations that had to be made. She came to him and asked, "Lord, don't you care that my sister has left me to do the work by myself? Tell her to help me!" (41) "Martha, Martha," the Lord answered, "you are worried and upset about many things, (42) but only one thing is needed. Mary has chosen what is better, and it will not be taken away from her."
God’s Blessings For True Worshipers

He Promises...

- To Be With Them
- To Guide & Surround Them With His Glory
- To Shower Them With Blessings Especially Peace
- To Give Them Overflowing Joy
- To Answer Their Prayers When Offered In Faith
- To Give Them A Fresh Infilling Of His Holy Spirit
God’s Blessings For True Worshipers

He Promises...

- To Work Among Them Thru The Holy Spirit
- To Guide Them Into All Truth
- To Purify, Develop & Set Them Apart
- To Comfort, Encourage & Strengthen Them
- To Expose Sin, Righteousness, & Judgment
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- *Our Level Of Worship Is More Important Than Our Level Of Work In The Kingdom*

- *We Are To Be Worshippers First & Workers Second*

- *“The Work Done By A Worshipper Will Have Eternity In It”*  
  --Oswald Chambers
We Need To Get To Know Jesus
To Worship At His Feet!

In Worship We Come To Know God:
His Holiness
His Truth
His Beauty
His Love
His Purposes
Essential #4: FELLOWSHIP

- “Fellowship” = “having in common” and involves sharing and participation with other believers
- He Calls Us To His Body -- His Church
  It Is A Call To One Another
- A Call To “Love One Another”
We Are Called To Fellowship in Community

- We Are Called To Each Other
- These Instructions Of Scripture:
  - To Love,
  - To Give,
  - To Care,
  - To Forgive,
  - To Serve,
Require Us To Be In Community & Fellowship
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- **Ecclesiastes 4:9-10 (NIV)** (9) Two are better than one, because they have a good return for their work: (10) If one falls down, his friend can help him up. But pity the man who falls and has no one to help him up!

- **Romans 15:5-6 (NIV)** 5 May the God who gives endurance and encouragement give you a spirit of unity among yourselves as you follow Christ Jesus, 6 so that with one heart and mouth you may glorify the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ.
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IN GODLY FELLOWSHIP: Romans 15:1-13

- The Strong Bear With The Failings Of The Weak
- Everyone Finds Hope In The Scriptures
- Everyone Works Together In Unity
- Everyone Accepted Without Discrimination
- Everyone Is Filled By The God Of Hope
Essential #5: WE ARE CALLED TO BE WITNESSES

(Rom 1:16-17 NIV) "I am not ashamed of the gospel, because it is the power of God for the salvation of everyone who believes: first for the Jew, then for the Gentile." (17) "For in the gospel a righteousness from God is revealed, a righteousness that is by faith from first to last, just as it is written: "The righteous will live by faith.""
Called To Be A Witness

- It Is The Responsibility Of All Christians
- It Is Reaching Out To Those Who Don’t Know Christ
- We Have A Message To Convey
- We Allow The Holy Spirit To Work Through Us
- It Can Be Costly And Requires Commitment
- Our Testimony Must Be Displayed & Declared
HOW IMPORTANT IS YOUR TESTIMONY???


- Your Testimony Will Be A Great Determining Factor In Whether Or Not You Pass On Your Faith To Your Family, Friends, Co-Workers, & Neighbors.
Characteristics of A Witness

- Every Christian Is Called To Be A Witness
- Must Have A First Hand Experience With Christ
- Must Be Able To Express A Testimony
- Will Have Confidence In The Power Of God
- Knows That God Can Change Any Heart.
- One Who Has A Godly Compassion For The Lost