

The Power of Good Home Training (Part 2) (The New Wine of Prioritizing)

January 10, 2020

Review: Annual Text: Mark 2:18–22 (NIV)

18 Now John's disciples and the Pharisees were fasting. Some people came and asked Jesus, "How is it that John's disciples and the disciples of the Pharisees are fasting, but yours are not?"

19 Jesus answered, "How can the guests of the bridegroom fast while he is with them? They cannot, so long as they have him with them. 20 But the time will come when the bridegroom will be taken from them, and on that day they will fast.

21 "No one sews a patch of unshrunk cloth on an old garment. Otherwise, the new piece will pull away from the old, making the tear worse. 22 And no one pours new wine into old wineskins. Otherwise, the wine will burst the skins, and both the wine and the wineskins will be ruined. No, they pour new wine into new wineskins."

"The world around us is changing. The question is can you say, cross the mental barriers and leap across your own philosophical hindrances?" (RRT)

Statement: We need the ability to make big mental leaps.

"The ability to make **big leaps of thought** is a common denominator among the originators of breakthrough ideas. Usually, this ability resides in people with very wide backgrounds, multidisciplinary minds, and a broad spectrum of experiences. **Boundary crossers reject either/or choices and seek multiple options and blended solutions**."

Source: A Whole New Mind by Daniel H. Pink (See Chapter 6, Seeing Relationships)

Home Training Lesson Two: The Ability to Prioritize (Matthew 4:3-4)

Note: Jesus was clear that his priority was to balance his spiritual life and his natural appetites.

• 3The tempter came to him and said, "If you are the Son of God, tell these stones to become bread." 4 Jesus answered, "It is written: 'Man shall not live on bread alone, but on every word that comes from the mouth of God.""

Question: Why should Jesus turn stones into bread?

Answer: He was hungry (This request does not fit into the larger plan for his life)

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Two Questions To Ponder:

- **1.** Who do you listen to when you are hungry?
- 2. Are you doing what will advance your goals?
- Jesus was clear that priorities have the power to re-direct your entire life outcome

Note: Mathew 16:24-28

24 Then Jesus said to his disciples, "Whoever **wants to be** my disciple must **deny themselves** and take up their cross and **follow me**. 25 For whoever wants to **save their life** will lose it, but whoever loses their life for me will find it. 26 What good will it be for someone to **gain the whole world**, yet forfeit their soul? Or what can anyone give **in exchange for their soul**? (NIV)

Conclusion:

Five Things That Make Priorities Work

- 1. A personal passion to want to be a disciple (v24)
- 2. A passion for self-denial (v24)
- **3.** A willingness to **follow** (v24)
- 4. A willfulness to surrender your life (v25)
- 5. A stronger commitment to preserving your soul (v26)

Next Time: The Chance to Do It Right

Home Training Lesson Three: The Ability to Recognize The New Wine of Wisdom

Big Question:

Read Ahead: Matthew 3:5-7