



TEACH ME TO PROSPER

Part Two: "God Must Be First"

Pastor David Cannistraci | March 9, 2014

"Beloved, I pray that you may prosper in all things and be in health, just as your soul prospers." 3 John 1:2 (NKJV)

It is God's will for His people to prosper in _____.

"For I know the plans I have for you," declares the Lord, "plans to prosper you and not to harm you..." Jeremiah 29:11 (NIV)

"But seek first the kingdom of God and His righteousness, and all these things shall be added to you." Matthew 6:33 (NKJV)

WHY MUST GOD BE FIRST IN OUR LIVES?

- **FIRST is the proof of** _____

"You shall have no other gods before Me." Exodus 20:3 (NKJV)

Something will be _____ in our life.

- **FIRST has the power of** _____

Then the Lord said to Moses, "Dedicate to me every firstborn among the Israelites. The first offspring to be born, of both humans and animals, belongs to me." Exodus 13:1-2 (NLT)

Only what is _____ can break a _____.

- **FIRST is the prerequisite for** _____

"Honor the Lord with your wealth and with the first and best part of all your income. Then your barns will be full, and your vats will overflow with fresh wine." Proverbs 3:9-10 (GWT)

The first portion conveys _____.

Prosper (Cont'd)

"...Cain presented some of his crops as a gift to the Lord. Abel also brought a gift—the best of the firstborn lambs from his flock. The Lord accepted Abel and his gift, but he did not accept Cain and his gift." Genesis 4:3-5 (NLT)

Honoring God first releases a _____.

"Bring all the tithes into the storehouse...and try Me now in this," says the Lord of hosts, "If I will not open for you the windows of heaven and pour out for you such blessing that there will not be room enough to receive it. And I will rebuke the devourer for your sakes..." Malachi 3:10-11 (NKJV)

Prosperity is not about quantity, but _____.

Three Certainties When God is First:

1. Certain _____ (Proverbs 3:9-10)
2. Certain _____ (Malachi 3:10-11)
3. Certain _____ (Matthew 6:33)

"We love Him because He first loved us." 1 John 4:19 (NKJV)

The cross proves that you are _____ in God's heart.

FATHER GOD, Thank you for loving me and teaching me to prosper in spirit, soul and body. It's clear that too often I have failed to put you first in my life. Today, I ask for your forgiveness. I receive your amazing love. Help me to always serve you and seek you first. In Christ's Name I pray, AMEN

THIS WEEK IN SMALL GROUPS

Icebreaker: What was your birth position in your family? How was that?

Scripture: Let different members share a verse from this teaching that impacted them personally. What does it mean for them?

Talk It Over: What are some ways that we can put God first in our lives?

Prayer: Pray for the grace to do better in putting God first.