**What’s More Important**

# Those who live according to the Spirit

**set their minds on the things of the Spirit.**

***(Romans 8:5)***

**Strive for the greater gifts.**

**And I will show you a still more excellent way.**

***(1 Corinthians 12:31)***

**Though I speak with the tongues of men and of angels,**

**and have not love in my heart,**

**I am become as sounding brass or a tinkling cymbal.**

**And though I have the gift of prophecy,**

**and understand all mysteries and all knowledge;**

**and though I have all faith, so that I could remove mountains,**

**and have not love in my heart, I am nothing.**

***(1 Corinthians 13: 1-2)***

**Apples were important to the early American settlers as a source of food and drink. In fact, many families planted their apple orchards before they built their homes. *(Jeff Harris, in Shortcuts)***

**The most important things in life aren't things. *(Quoted in bulletin of Fairfield, Illinois, First Christian Church)***

**Of all the arts, the art of living is probably the most important. *(Deborah Levy, novelist)***

**The Volante, the student newspaper at the University of South Dakota in Grand Fork, runs a weekly question feature. Recently, the question was: "Whose autograph would you most want to have, and why?" As expected, most responses mentioned music or sports stars, or politicians. The best response came from a freshman, who said, "The person who signs my diploma." *(Sue Burdick, in Reader's Digest)***

**Men, though they must die, are not born in order to die but in order to begin something new. (Hannah Arendt)**

**Among the world’s popular beverages, hard liquor ranks No. 8, behind water, coffee, beer, soft drinks, milk, tea and fruit juices. *(L. M. Boyd)***

**California now grows four fifths of the world's almonds, a crop that uses enough water to supply 75 percent of the drought-parched state's population. *(Bloomberg.com, as it appeared in The Week magazine, August 29, 2014)***

**On this earth there are pestilences and there are victims – and as far as possible, one must refuse to be on the side of the pestilence. *(Albert Camus)***

**People want to know how much you care before they care how much you know. *(James F. Hind, in The Wall Street Journal)***

**Andrew Carnegie was once asked what he considered most important in industry: labor, capital or brains. With a laugh Carnegie replied, *“Which is the most important leg of a 3-legged stool?” (Bits & Pieces)***

**After I’m dead I’d rather have people ask why I have no monument than why I have one. (Cato the Elder)**

**There are people who have money and people who are rich. (Coco Gabrielle Chanel)**

**It’s good to have money and the things money can buy, but it’s good to check once in a while and make sure you haven’t lost the things that money can’t buy. *(George Horace Lorimer, in The Best of BITS & PIECES, p. 128)***

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**What Matters: One hundred years from now, it will not matter what kind of car I drove, what kind of house I lived in, how much I had in my bank account, nor what my clothes looked like. But the world may be a little better because I was important in the life of a child. *(The Education Link)***

**How much Myrtle Fillmore's insistence on taking care of the children has influenced the Unity movement was shown when work on Unity Temple, the present home of the Unity Society of Practical Christianity on the Country Club Plaza in Kansas City, was begun in the 1940's. As construction proceeded, it became apparent that the entire building could not be completed at one time as it was going to cost over a million dollars. This was an immense sum of money for an organization to raise that had no wealthy backers but depended for its income on small contributions. It was finally decided to build only part of the building and wait before finishing the rest. It was not the Sunday-school rooms but the sanctuary that was left unfinished. *(James Dillet Freeman, in The Story of Unity, p. 76)***

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**It’s more important to click with people than to click the shutter. *(Alfred Eisenstaedt, philosopher)***

**You can’t build a great company without great people. But how do you know them when you see them? Over the past few years, a number of companies in a wide range of industries – from airlines to steel, computers to hotels – have asked themselves what separates their winners from their losers, good hires from bad, and they all arrived at the same answer: what people know is less important than who they are. Hiring, they believe, is not about finding people with the right experience, it’s about finding people with the right mindset. These companies hire for attitude and train for skill. *(Peter Carbonara, in Fast Company)***

**One never notices what has been done; one can only see what remains to be done. *(Marie Curie)***

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**I prefer silent vice to ostentatious virtue. *(Albert Einstein)***

**If most of us are ashamed of shabby clothes and shoddy furniture, let us be more ashamed of shabby ideas and shoddy philosophies. *(Albert Einstein)***

**Try not to become a person of success, but rather try to become a person of value. *(Albert Einstein)***

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**A people that values its privileges above its principles soon loses both. (Dwight D. Eisenhower, former U. S. president)**

**What counts is not necessarily the size of the dog in the fight -- it's the size of the fight in the dog. (Dwight D. Eisenhower)**

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**What do we live for, if it is not to make life less difficult for each other? *(George Eliot)***

**When I get a little money I buy books, and if any is left I buy food and clothes. *(Erasmus)***

**While it is well enough to leave footprints on the sands of time, it is even more important to make sure they point in a commendable direction. *(James Branch Cabell)***

**Nothing in this world, including a great family life, is of ultimate significance. Our earthly existence, and that of our children, is first and foremost about one thing only: loving God with all our heart, all our soul, all our mind, and with all our strength. *(Ray Seldomridge)***

**Things which matter most must never be at the mercy of things which matter the least. (Goethe)**

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**Dennis says to Mrs. Wilson: "I guess Grampa is pretty important. He says if he hadn't been born . . . neither would I." (Hank Ketcham, in Dennis the Menace comic strip)**

**Kidnapped: When I took our children to Kenya to visit their grandparents, it was the trip of a lifetime: flying in jumbo jets, seeing elephants and prides of lions, and experiencing all sorts of wonderful new things. Back home, we cleared customs at the airport, and my three-year-old son rushed up to his waiting father. "Daddy, guess what," he shouted. "Granddad can take his teeth out!" (Marianne White, in Reader's Digest)**

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**What we are hereafter depends upon what we are after here. *(Bill R. Austin, in Clouds Without Water)***

**The greatest thing in this world is not so much where we are, but in what direction we are moving. *(Oliver Wendell Holmes)***

**A Short Course in Human Relations:**

**\* The six most important words: “I admit I made a mistake.”**

**\* The five most important words: “You did a good job.”**

**\* The four most important words: “What is your opinion?”**

**\* The three most important words are: “If you please.”**

**\* The two most important words: “Thank you.”**

**\* The one most important word: “We.”**

**\* The least important word: “I.” *(Bits &Pieces)***

**Treat a person as he is, and he will remain as he is. Treat him as he could be, and he will become what he should be. *(Jimmy Johnson, former NFL coach)***

**Michael Jordan, despite his retirement from basketball, headed Forbes magazine's list of the highest-earning athletes for the third straight year. Jordan, the former Chicago Bull who stepped down for a chance to play professional baseball, earned $30.01 million this year, down from $36 million in 1993, the magazine said in its December 19 issue, released Sunday. But only about $10,000 of his income came from playing baseball with the minor-league Birmingham Barons, while about $30 million came from endorsements, Forbes estimated. *(Rocky Mountain News, December 5, 1994)***

**It is good to have an end to journey toward; but it is the journey that matters, in the end. *(Ursula K. LeGuin)***

**Seek not the favor of the multitude; it is seldom got by honest and lawful means. But seek the testimony of the few; and number not voices, but weigh them. (Immanuel Kant, German philosopher)**

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**I don’t know who my grandfather was. I am much more concerned to know what his grandson will be. *(Abraham Lincoln)***

**Once at a county fair, Abraham Lincoln passed a concession where the operator was offering for a nickel the chance to swing a huge hammer and “ring the bell.” Challenged, Lincoln declined. “What’s the matter,” the man asked, “don’t you think you can do it?” The future President answered, “It’s not a matter of whether I can do it or not. I was just wondering . . . What have you done after you do it?” *(James M. Bryan, in Pentecostal Evangel)***

**And in the end, it is not the years in your life that count. It’s the life in your years. *(Abraham Lincoln)***

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**It isn’t so much what’s on the table that matters, as what’s on the chairs. (W. S. Gilbert, of Gilbert & Sullivan)**

**The meaning of earthly existence lies not, as we have grown used to thinking, in our prosperity but in the development of our souls. (Aleksandr Solzhenitsyn, Russian author)**

**The principality of Monaco is the only country in the world whose orchestra is bigger than its defense force. There are 85 musicians in the National Orchestra and 82 men in the military. (Sunday Express, London)**

**Domino's Pizza Inc. founder and owner Tom Monaghan has resigned as president of the fast-food empire, saying he wants to serve the church instead of serving up more than $2 billion worth of pizza a year. Monaghan told thousands of Domino's employees via closed-circuit television Monday that he would remain chairman and chief executive officer, but was relinquishing the presidency. "I love the day-to-day work at Domino's, but I want to serve the church more," said Monaghan, 52. "I always wanted to be a priest." Monaghan, who owns the Detroit Tigers baseball team and is known for his collection of classic cars and devotion to architect Frank Lloyd Wright, holds 97.5 percent of Domino's stock. But he said he would consider selling the company if the transaction benefited Domino's Pizza Foundation, which runs Monaghan's philanthropic efforts. (The Pantagraph wire services, 1988)**

**When a fellow says, “It ain’t the money but the principle of the thing,” it’s the money. (Frank McKinney Hubbard)**

**Whether you succeed or not is irrelevant, there is no such thing. Making your unknown known is the important thing. (Georgia O’Keeffe)**

**We cannot make people over. Our business is to make ourselves better and others happy, and that is enough to keep us busy. (Joseph Fort Newton, in The Atlantic)**

**As a physician who has been deeply privileged to share the most profound moments of people’s lives, including their final moments, let me tell you a secret. People facing death don’t think about what degrees they have earned, what positions they have held or how much wealth they have accumulated. At the end, what really matters – and is a good measure of a past life – is who you loved and who loved you. The circle of love is everything. (Dr. Bernadine Healy)**

**Never let a problem to be solved become more important than a person to be loved. (Barbara Johnson)**

**In 2019, Americans spent $13.5 billion more on their pets than on alcohol: $90 billion to alcohol's $76.5 billion. We also spent more than twice as much on our pets as we did on major appliances, fresh fruit, or tobacco products. (The Washington Post, as it appeared in The Week magazine, January 29, 2021)**

**Few things in life are as important as the pride of craftsmanship, at whatever level it may occur – the pride in a job well done, the feeling of having a horse that one can ride. *(Brooke Allen)***

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**Pulitzer Prize-winning newspaper columnist Anna Quindlen was seen by colleagues as a top contender to run the New York Times one day. It therefore came as a shock last September when she announced she was leaving the paper. Why didn’t she stick around? Quindlen, who treasures her time with her three children, ages 11, nine and five, decided the price was too high. “It was a difficult and painful decision,” Quindlen says. “If I had two distinct lives to lead, one of them would be helping to steer the New York Times into the 21st century. But it would be very difficult to spend as much time as I’d like with my kids and do well in a management position.” *(Howard Kurtz, in Washington Post)***

**Anybody who tries to convince me that foreign policy is more important than childrearing is doomed to failure. *(Anna Quindlen)***

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**Mom says to the children before Grandma arrives at their house: “Remember! Hugs and kisses come before ‘what did you bring us, Grandma?’” *(Bil Keane, in The Family Circus comic strip)***

**A Japanese court stopped road construction that would have destroyed a stand of 500-year-old cedar trees, even though re-routing the road cost about $48 million. The presiding judge ruled that “you can build a road if you have the time and money, but a part of one’s cultural heritage can never be brought back, once it is destroyed. (International Wildlife)**

**It is not the critic who counts; not the man who points out how the strong man stumbles, or where the doer of deeds could have done them better. The credit belongs to the man who is actually in the arena, whose face is marred by dust and sweat and blood, who strives valiantly, who errs and comes up short again and again because there is no effort without error and shortcomings, who knows the great devotion, who spends himself in a worthy cause, who at the best knows in the end the high achievement of triumph and who at worst, if he fails while daring greatly, knows his place shall never be with those timid and cold souls who know neither victory nor defeat. (Teddy Roosevelt, 26th U. S. President)**

**I often think these days that we are all in too much of a rush, trying to do too much, and still failing to discern and do the very things that would mean most. So much that we think and do, surely, would not be done by one in the Jesus Christ consciousness. So much that we think we need would not be desired by one conscious of the spiritual resources. (Myrtle Fillmore’s Healing Letters, p. 18)**

**The Beloved looks less at the grandeur of our deeds than at the love with which we perform them. *(St. Teresa of Avila)***

**If you don't have a weekend to spare once a year to think exclusively about the things that really matter -- well, then you haven't planned your life correctly. *(Antonin Scalia, Supreme Court Justice)***

**One truth stands firm. Al that happens in world history rests on something spiritual. If the spiritual is strong, it creates world history. If it is weak, it suffers world history. *(Albert Schweitzer)***

**The scoreboard in the end zone is very important to me, but not nearly so important as the scoreboard of life. (Bill McCartney, University of Colorado football coach)**

**We are not primarily put on the earth to see through one another, but to see one another through. (Peter De Vries, in Let Me Count the Ways)**

**The question is not will there be difficulties and threats to our existence, but how will we deal with them and what can we learn from them. *(Dr. Bernie Siegel)***

**Stocks are nice, but taking stock of what has real value is far more rewarding. Fancy homes are beautiful, but solid emotional foundations are more beautiful. Running a company is a worthy professional pursuit, but keeping good company is a worthier lifetime goal. (Neil Cavuto)**

**A rabbi was walking down the street when a member of his congregation came along and boasted that he had read all the volumes of the Talmud three times. The rabbi looked at him and said, “The important thing is not how many times you have been through the Talmud, but whether the Talmud has been through you.” (Bits & Pieces) 1779320**

**He who seeks rest finds boredom. He who seeks work finds rest. (Dylan Thomas)**

**A family of treasure hunters from Sanford, Florida, has finally struck gold after more than a decade of searching. Rick Schmitt and his wife, Lisa, along with their children Hillary and Eric, discovered gold off the Florida coastline worth up to $350,000, having scoured the state’s waters for 13 years. The gold came from a 300-year-old Spanish shipwreck, and most of the proceeds will go to the state and the company that owns diving rights to the site. But Lisa Schmitt said the time spent searching was worth more than the bounty. “The greatest treasure is time with the family,” she said. (The Week magazine, September 13, 2013)**

**The only tangible thing Jesus left behind was one tattered garment, and   
one Peter, one James, one John, one Mary, one Mary Magdalene, and one Martha. These people were also the only “trophies” he asked to take with him into Paradise. Jesus saw them as his greatest accomplishments. *(Laurie Beth Jones, in Jesus, CEO, p. 287)***

**What we must decide is how we are valuable rather than how valuable we are. *(Edgar Z. Friedenberg)***

**The world cares very little about what a man or woman knows; it is what the man or woman is able to do. *(Booker T. Washington, American educator and author)***

**If we work upon marble, it will perish; if we work on brass, time will efface it. If we rear temples, they will crumble to dust. But if we work on men’s immortal minds, if we impress on them high principles, the just fear of God, and love for their fellowmen, we engrave on those tablets something which no time can efface and which will brighten and brighten to all eternity. *(Daniel Webster)***

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**What counts in life is not the mere fact that we have lived. It is what difference we have made to the lives of others that will determine the significance of the life we lead. *(Nelson Mandela, from a speech for the 90th birthday of anti-apartheid activist Walter Sisulu, 2002)***

**Regardless of what you’ve lost, what matters is what you do with what you have left. *(Ashleigh Brilliant, in Pot-Shots)***

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**It's not what you do that matters, it's what you get done. *(Larry Winget)***

**The six most important words in our language are: “I admit I made a mistake.” The five most important words: “You did a good job.” The four most important words: “What is your opinion?” The three most important words: “If you please.” The two most important words: “Thank you.” The single most important word: “We.” And the least most important word: “I.” *(Bits & Pieces)***

**Most men believe that it would benefit them if they could get a little from those who have more. How much more would it benefit them if they would learn a little from those who know more. *(Wm. J. H. Boetcker)***

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