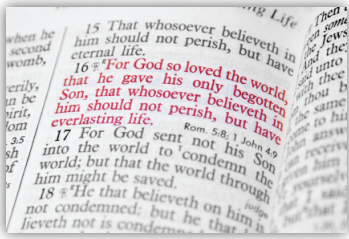


Life Principle Day One:

Our intimacy with God—His highest priority for our lives—determines the impact of our lives.

**Today's Reading
Matthew 22:34-40**



The Bible is a love letter that communicates the matchless love of God. But God's love elicits a response. Today's reading from Matthew's gospel affirms the intimacy God desires with us. Here, Christ established the priority of your life...a commandment to love...love from your heart, soul and mind directed toward the Lord God.

This first life principle helps to understand that priority. Your Creator designed you for a deep, loving relationship with Him. As with your horizontal relationships, this vertical relationship is strengthened through your communication with your Lord and Savior. Communication is two directional. As you listen by reading the living Word and absorbing its vast truth into your heart, soul, and mind, you will find that the Lord be-

comes a more and more vital part of your life. The indwelling Spirit of God guides you into fellowship with Him.

Your relationship with God also grows in depth as you talk to Him in prayer. Worship Him for who He is. Praise Him for what He does. Acknowledge your dependence upon Him. Ask Him what things need to change or be strengthened.

Your growing love for Him allows His love to flow through you. It is through this growth in Christ your relationship with family, friends, colleagues, and "neighbors" in our life will also grow in intimacy. Is your attention riveted on God? Is that love leading you into fellowship with and concern for others around you?

To listen to Dr. Stanley, click here: http://www.intouch.org/resources/life-principles-to-live-by/content/topic/our_intimacy_with_god_life_principle

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