

In The Beginning God...

- **QUOTE:** *God is good, and everything good in our lives begins with God.*
- **Genesis 1:1, 31 KJV** - *In the beginning God created the heavens and the earth. And God saw everything that he had made, and behold, it was very good...*
- No matter what we do in life, God belongs at the forefront.
- Why? Because...
- **Psalm 18:30 NKJV** - *As for God, His way is perfect; The word of the LORD is proven; He is a shield to all who trust in Him.*

Week #1 – PUTTING GOD FIRST

How Do I Put God First?

1. Become a Student of the Bible

- **II Timothy 3:16 NLT** - *All Scripture is inspired by God and is useful to teach us what is true and to make us realize what is wrong in our lives. It corrects us when we are wrong and teaches us to do what is right.*
- **Joshua 1:8 NLT** - *Study this Book of Instruction continually. Meditate on it day and night so you will be sure to obey everything written in it. Only then will you prosper and succeed in all you do.*
- **QUOTE:** *"You got to become a student of the game. You got to learn the game before you can go out there and play fast." Aaron Donald (Defensive Tackle, NFL)*
- **John 5:39-40 NIV** - *You study the Scriptures diligently because you think that in them you have eternal life. These are the very Scriptures that testify about me, yet you refuse to come to me to have life.*
- There's a famous quote from ancient Greece that says, *"It is impossible for a man to learn what he thinks he already knows"*.

2. Retire Your Opinion

- **Romans 12:2 NLT** - *Don't copy the behavior and customs of this world, but let God transform you into a new person by changing the way you think. Then you will learn to know God's will for you, which is good and pleasing and perfect.*
- **QUOTE:** *Putting God first means dropping our opinion and adopting God's opinion.*
- **Isaiah 55:9 (NKJV)** - *For as the heavens are **higher** than the earth, So are My ways **higher** than your ways, And My thoughts than your thoughts.*
- This also means that the **plan** He has for our lives is higher than (superior to) our plan if we'll finally surrender it all to Him.

3. Pray First

- **James 4:13-15 NLT** *Look here, you who say, "Today or tomorrow we are going to a certain town and will stay there a year. We will do business there and make a profit." 14 How do you know what your life will be like tomorrow? Your life is like the morning fog—it's here a little while, then it's gone. 15 What you ought to say is, "If the Lord wants us to, we will live and do this or that."*
- Jesus gave us His Spirit with a promise that He will show us things to come (John 14). We don't have to wander around life in the dark without a clue of what might happen tomorrow.
- **QUOTE:** *Prayer is the MASTER KEY that helps us unlock the mysteries of God's will.*
- **QUOTE:** *Putting God first means seeking His will, not just His permission.*
- We must get better at praying for direction, instead of just praying for answers.
- **James 1:5 NIV** - *If any of you lacks wisdom, you should ask God, who gives generously to all without finding fault, and it will be given to you.*
- **Psalm 18:30 NKJV** - *As for God, HIS WAY IS PERFECT; The word of the LORD is proven; He is a shield to all who trust in Him.*