



WOW: Word Of the Week

Focus

July 8, 2020

The last half of 2020 has arrived! Time to check our focus!

The word “focus” may not be a Bible word but it is a principle and concept that runs throughout the Bible. “Set your minds on things that are above, not on things that are on earth” (Col. 3:1-4). The time in which we live is full of distractions. The periphery, the urgent consumes our lives. We focus on things at hand; it is not easy to focus on things above. We pay a huge price when we fail to focus – when we fail to set our minds on things above.

How can you improve your focus? These suggestions are first steps. Focus on God, his Word and his mission. Hold on to the most important things, focus on the things above—things that are eternal.

Focus on God. What is your focus? Perhaps a better question: where is your focus? What do you see each day? I like the phrase, “God sightings.” What do you think about? God? First thing in the morning, last thing at night. All day. Daniel prayed three times each day toward Jerusalem. David in Psalm 145: seven times each day I will praise. One model suggests how to do this: upon arising, before going to bed at night, three meals, mid-morning and mid-afternoon. What do you think about all day long?

Focus on God’s Word. With recent restrictions on public assemblies, methods of studying God’s word together have changed – whether with other Christians or with those outside of Christ. What is important is that God’s Word is being studied. Many have free time; some have an abundance of free time. Will you use it to grow in the Lord? Technology provides Bible classes and sermons. We are blessed. We can use technology to communicate God’s word to unbelievers -- friends, coworkers, neighbors, and others who are searching for stability in an unstable world – so they will be blessed.

In a time of social isolation, many Christians access lessons, sermons and worship services online. A virtual digital fellowship has developed, bringing Christians together, many of whom are geographically separated. A word of caution: thousands of “live” presentations are available on Facebook and YouTube, many hastily put together. Be discerning in your time investment. Seek lessons that are biblical, well-developed, timeless, designed to enhance personal study and growth. here are excellent studies on my website at <bobyongresources.com>, including electronic access to my series of Bible Study Guides, and dozens (approaching hundreds) of videos on my YouTube channel? Opportunities to study God’s word abound. Focus on God’s word.

Focus on God’s mission. Many around the world are seeking God during these troublesome times. People who have never been interested in studying God’s word are suddenly wanting to know what God says about the future. We live in a window of opportunity where people are wondering about things above, eternal matters. I share my “mission focus” list, hoping it is helpful as you focus on God’s mission.

Now is the time to recruit and train the next generation of preachers and church leaders.

Now is the time to focus Bible study for spiritual growth.

Now is the time to learn how to share faith more effectively.

Now is the time to study God’s word with unbelievers.

Now is the time to send out missionaries and mission teams who will touch lost souls and bring them good news of salvation in Christ.

Make your own “focus list.” I warn you that including too many items will make it difficult to focus. Determine God’s purpose and priorities in your life. Bring life into focus. Now is the time to set your mind on things above.