DISCIPLE MAKING A PODCAST WITH DR. JOHN TOLSON

Episode 22: Why The Four Priorities Are Crucial

We're talking about how to change the planet, and the planet needs to be changed. In Matthew 28, Jesus said "Go therefore into all the world and make disciples," multipliers, reproducers. In Matthew 22, we get those four priorities we just talked about, which we have pulled together into a book for disciple-making.

Here are some thoughts on why The Four Priorities are important. A lot of times people will say to me "John, I don't want to use your book" and I always say to them "Well let's use what you're using. What are you using to disciple?" and usually the answer is nothing. So why The Four Priorities? There are a lot of good books out there. I'm sitting in my library right now and I've got hundreds and hundreds of books, and I use many of these books to help people grow in their faith.

So, what's so great about these Four Priorities?

- 1. They are biblical. This is all from the Scripture. I didn't make this stuff up. It came straight out of the Bible.
- 2. They are Christ-centered. Jesus said these four things are critical and essential in the development of a foundation of faith in your life. He told us to live by them and to pass them along.
- 3. They are universally useful for every follower of Christ, for every small group, for every member of every church, for every nonprofit ministry, etc. They are transcultural. They're not just for American Christians.
- 4. Because they are from Scripture, they are timeless.
- 5. They are basic, bottom-line Christianity. They can assist and guide every Christian anywhere, at any time.
- 6. They help guard against distractions. Christians, churches, and ministries can focus too much on secondary issues and these four priorities help bring focus to the main ideas and goals Jesus set up for us.
- 7. They are very specific and practical. They concentrate on Jesus. They concentrate on love and respect.
- 8. These four priorities help us live a balanced life. Multiple times a day I hear somebody say "Oh, I'm just so tired! Oh, I'm just so worn out! Oh man, I don't feel like I'm organized

enough. Things are getting away from me." We need to figure out how to live a more balanced life and these four priorities help you do that.

9. These Four Priorities give us the freedom to say no. Prioritizing according to what Jesus has told us allows us to eliminate in order to concentrate. that was a good one you must learn to a limit in order to concentrate. Lee lacocca, the former head of Chrysler, said this: "The main thing is to keep the main thing the main thing." That's what The Four Priorities do.

You think about that!

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- To schedule John to speak at your next event, email info@thetolsongroup.com
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