

SIX IMPORTANT “F”s
JUNE 11, 2023

JAMES 4:13-17

James was addressing Jewish Christian businessmen who were guilty of leaving God out of their future plans. He reminds them of the temporal and eternal aspects of life and instructs them to seek God’s will. Their boasting was sinful and evil.

PR. 16:3 AMPC

SIX IMPORTANT “F”s

- 1.) Fear of the Lord. **PR. 1:7**
 - A.) **ECCL. 12:13** Fearing God is the most meaningful thing we can do in life.
 - B.) Healthy fear is useful for making right choices. Healthy fear prevents us from misusing electricity, fire or messing with a grizzly bear’s cubs. It also keeps us from sin (**EX. 20:20**).
- 2.) Faith in God. **EPH. 2:8**
 - A.) Only our personal faith in God guarantees our eternal success.
 - B.) Our temporal success also involves our personal faith in God’s plan for our lives now. By faith, Abraham left his homeland.
- 3.) Focus on your goals.
 - A.) Jesus did – **LUKE 9:51** Our goal must be set also, so we’re not distracted.
 - B.) Paul did - **PHIL. 3:12-14**
 - C.) Losing focus cost Arnold Palmer the 1961 Masters.
- 4.) Finish what we start.
 - A.) **LUKE 14:28-30** Count the cost.
 - B.) Finish college, stay married.
 - C.) Paul Harvey’s Message for Graduates:
 - Life is not fair – get used to it.
 - If you think your teacher is tough wait till you get a boss.
 - If you mess up it’s not your parents’ fault, so don’t whine about your mistakes, learn from them.
 - Before you were born your parents weren’t as boring as they are now. They got that way paying your bills and cleaning your room.
 - Life is not divided into semesters. You don’t get summers off and very few employers are interested in helping you find yourself. Do that on your own time.
- 5.) Failing doesn’t mean one’s a failure.

A.) Noah, Abraham, David, Samson, Peter all failed; but weren't considered failures.

B.) Abraham Lincoln:

- 1831 Failed in business.
- 1832 Defeated for Legislature.
- 1833 Failed again in business.
- 1835 Fiancé died.
- 1836 Nervous breakdown.
- 1838 Defeated for Speaker of the House.
- 1850 Son died.
- 1855 Defeated for Senate.
- 1856 Defeated for Vice President.
- 1858 Defeated for Senate.
- 1860 Elected President.

6.) Family is a priority.

A.) **EX. 20:12** First commandment carrying a promise.

B.) **LEV. 20:9** Death for parental disrespect.

C.) Stay close to family.

Conclusion:

Nothing is more important than fulfilling God's plan for our lives He knows what's best for us and will order our steps accordingly. It's up to us to acknowledge Him so He can direct our paths (**PR. 3:5-6**).