**EQUIP – 6**

May the people raise you, O God. Then the earth will yield its harvests.

1. What Really Matters

A discipleship journey which continues with setting in place values and priorities which in turns guards our steps and helps us in growing in the knowledge of God.

**MEETING EXPECTATIONS:**

1. Respect each other’s privacy

(do not ask for contact number, no business transactions)

2. Honor the vision of this church

(do not promote or invite to other church events and programs)

3. Humility and Order

(humble despite disagreements. Other questions can be discussed after the class)

**SHARING:**

Life can move pretty fast when we are not paying attention that leads us to being busy and being busier by the month. We end up in a cycle of chronic busyness within an overstimulated environment being inundated with different values, advice and directions.

The major and minor demands of life become a chronic busy-ness that begins to dictate the way we live our life and not God.

When this happens, it may often drown out the voice of God who wants to speak to us. We may even be doing God’s work, busy with it but missing God’s voice altogether.

To overcome this, we must come to terms with what really matters and decide what will come first, what will take priority and what does not. Doing this leads us to a more balanced life once we learn to put “first things first.”

With so many needs to attend to, it can often lead to us being more burnt out, burdened and worn out trying to come up with a solution. Needful, intentional, purposeful change is needed if we to see improvements. A course alteration is needed no matter how small or big.

The top priority to what really matters is first of all, the Word of God builds us to be strong.

Psalm 119:11

I have stored up Your Word in my heart, that I might not sin against You.

Secondly, prayer is an amazing privilege.

Martin Luther:

“Prayer is not overcoming God's reluctance. It is laying hold of His willingness.”

Psalm 46:10

We need to put the practice of the presence of God above all else and attend to His voice first.

A prayer filled life leads to a fuller, deeper and closer walk with God since we are growing in new revelations and insights about Him and how to handle to day-to-day life.

Types of Prayer:

1. Prayer of Faith (Mark 11:23-24

It is to exercise faith in the promises of God which are either from the “rhema” or “logos”.   
Rhema being the specific word.

Logos being the written word.

2. Prayer of Intercession (Psalms 123:1-2)

This exerts tremendous influence over people and breaks bondages. Do not stop until you have prayed through or God tells you to stop. Do not let go until manifestation happens. If you don’t feel the burden, it’s alright. If you feel the burden, don’t condemn others who don’t.

3. Groaning Prayer (Romans 8:26-28)

This kind “gives birth” to new souls into the kingdom of God, new ministries and move of God.

4. Prayer of Praise and Thanksgiving (Rev 4:11)

Worship is the reason we were created.

5. Corporate Prayer (Matt 18:18-20)

Praying together is so effective. Gather together to pray in unity and see God move mightily

Thirdly, living with biblical values help define what is precious and worthless to pursuit in life.

We hold fast to godly values so that we can live wisely and discern things which are of the Spirit and that which is not.

If we do not decide the values to hold fast to, others will decide them for us.

Sometimes, we may even suffer for it for example a retaliation or being left out of projects and plans.

By deciding what really matters, we do not go with the flow and neither do we let our values be compromised. Instead, we stay true to who God has called us to be or do.

Colossians 3:1-3

Since, then, you have been raised with Christ, set your hearts on things above, where Christ is, seated at the right hand of God. 2 Set your minds on things above, not on earthly things. 3 For you died, and your life is now hidden with Christ in God. 4 When Christ, who is your life, appears, then you also will appear with him in glory.

Martin Luther King Jr: The end of life is not to be happy nor to achieve pleasure and avoid pain, but to do the will of God, come what may.

Adapted from resources:

Kingdom Series Bible Study by Joshua Yee

The Christian Faith by Joseph Stump

Roots and Wings by Edmund Chan

**DISCUSSION**:

Objectives of discussion:

Deeper thought learning

Interactive and Engaging

Going slow to build strong foundations

A. Always Busy (Luke 10:38-42)

1. How are Mary and Martha the same but different?

2. Mary chose to do the right thing which is the one thing necessary. What does this tell us about what He considers necessary?

3. Are you more like Mary or Martha? What steps would you take to be more like Mary?

4. What is a key takeaway you learnt from this verse?

5. What are some new insights and revelations you learnt today?

B. Varieties of Prayer (Ephesians 6:18)

1. What is meant by “all kinds of prayers”?

2. What can be a hindrance to prayer? What can help us focus?

3. Why is prayer so important?

4. What is a key takeaway you learnt from this verse?

5. What are some new insights and revelations you learnt today?

C. Godliness (2 Timothy 3:1-7)

1. What is meant by the term “godliness and why is it important in life and ministry?

2. What does it mean to “have the appearance of godliness but denying it’s power”? What power does godliness have?

3. If cultivating godliness is required, where does grace come in?

4. What is a key takeaway you learnt from this verse?

5. What are some new insights and revelations you learnt today?