

# Priority Amidst Pressure

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## I. How to beat the 'NNN' syndrome: *Nervous-Neurotic-Navigators*

### A. Do you ever feel bent out of shape in your ministry?

1. No such thing as a life or ministry without pressure.
2. To live is to struggle.
3. To serve is to hassle.
4. Christian life is not a dream - it is a battle.
5. How to walk by faith when there is a war on.

### B. Paul (1 Corinthians 9:24-27)

1. Two groups of people in the church.
  - a) Those who can.
  - b) Those who can.
2. If disapproval was an option with Paul, where do you come in?
3. Successful ministry with others and then discover you are disqualified.

### C. Objectives for series.

1. See changes brought about in your life in ministry.
2. See changes in the life of your disciples.

## II. Four ingredients for successful ministry and living.

### A. Objectives

1. What do you want?
2. How badly do I want to pay that price?
3. Determine outcomes.
4. Provide standards to measure if you are on target or lost.
5. Sand dunes are formed by influences not by purposes.

a) Most people do not act, but merely re-act.

b) Responsive but not decisive.

c) Evangelical circles 10-15 years behind.

6. Two kinds of objectives.

a) Biblical

1) Revelation.

2) Fixed.

b) Personal

1) Functional.

2) Flexible because you are changing.

7. General and specific.

8. Developing winning team:

a) Get team in condition.

1) Involves what goes on in-between practices.

2) Because they can tear down faster than you can build up.

b) Teach fundamentals.

1) The basics are basic.

c) Get them working together as a team not as individuals.

1) Cared less about your being a star.

2) Cared about your contribution to the team.

## B. Priorities

1. What price are you willing to pay to accomplish objectives?

2. Order or importance but not necessarily time.

3. Change:

a) Maturity

b) Stage

4. Learn from other people's experience.
5. Sensitivity to the Holy Spirit.
6. Family.
7. Say no to a lot of things to say yes to your priorities.

### C. Schedule

1. How can I implement my priorities?
2. Structure.
3. Helps you accomplish what you really want to do.
4. Amount of time.
5. Use of time.

#### a) Individuality

- 1) Tailor make it to yourself.
- 2) Become a student of yourself.
- 3) When are you efficient?
- 4) How much sleep do you need?

#### b) Flexibility

- 1) Keeps you from what you don't want to do.
- 2) Keeps you for what you want to do.
- 3) Interruptions.
- 4) God is the Lord of your life, not your schedule.
- 5) Evaluate and change it.

#### c) Conformity

- 1) Conform to priorities not to people.
- 2) If you don't plan your time someone else will do it for you.

#### d) Reality

- 1) Deny humanity.
- 2) Time for rest and relaxation.
- 3) Time for family.
- 4) Who controls your life?

#### D. Discipline

1. Self-control.
2. The heart of life and the heart of ministry.
3. Always know where you are.
4. Learned and developed skill and a mental attitude.
5. Reprogram your thinking. (Romans 12)
6. Takes time.
7. How badly do you want it?