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## **SEEK GOD AND HIS KINGDOM FIRST**

***“But seek first the kingdom of God and His righteousness,  
and all these things will be provided for you.”***

***Matthew 6:33 (HCSB)***

**Over and over in Scripture we read that God asks for the “*first fruits*” of all that He has given to us. One example is Proverbs 3:9, which says “Honor the LORD from your wealth and from the *first* of all your produce.” When the risen Jesus reproved the church at Ephesus, He chided the people for having left their “first love” (Revelation 2:4). **Jesus wasn’t saying that they didn’t love Him at all. In fact, He applauded them with these words: “You have perseverance and have endured for My name’s sake, and have not grown weary” (v. 3). But the problem in Ephesus was that the believers there no longer regarded Jesus as first in their hearts.****

**In Colossians, Christ’s preeminence over all things is further emphasized: “He is also head of the body, the church; and He is the beginning, the firstborn from the dead, so that He Himself will come to have *first* place in everything.” (1:18, emphasis added). God makes it clear repeatedly in Scripture that nothing less than first place is where He belongs in our lives. AMEN.**

**~Dr. Tony Evans**

*“And Jesus came and spake unto them, saying, All power is given unto me in heaven and in earth. Go ye therefore, and teach all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost: Teaching them to observe all things whatsoever I have commanded you: and, lo, I am with you always, even unto the end of the world. Amen.” Matthew 28:18 – 20*

