

LIVING A FIRST-THING-FIRST LIFESTYLE  
**PUTTING GOD FIRST**

6 PRINCIPLES OF THE FIRST

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# The Journey So Far

## Series: **Putting God First**

- Session 1 – Growth & Alignment
- Session 2 – Putting God First in Everything
- Session 3 – Keeping God First When Life Competes
- Session 4 – Living a First-Things-First Faith Lifestyle (Today)

## Series Highlights

The Journey of First:

Principle → Practice → Permanence

Building a lifestyle of:

First Love • First Obedience • First Trust


First Fruits • First Faith Decisions

## Key Decisions

- From moments of devotion to a lifestyle of devotion
- From intentional moments to first-priority living
- Keeping God first when life continues

## Key Thoughts

- Not an event – a **rhythm**
- Not a feeling – a **framework**
- Not just intention – but **order**

The background features a smooth gradient from dark blue on the left to deep purple on the right. Diagonal lines of light, transitioning from blue to purple, sweep across the frame from the bottom corners towards the center, creating a sense of depth and movement.

**But seek first the kingdom of God and  
his righteousness, and all these  
things will be added to you.**

**MATTHEW 6:33**

## Key Principle

What you consistently put first, eventually **governs your life.**

**Jesus said to him, “You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, with all your soul, and with all your mind.’<sup>38</sup> This is *the* first and great commandment.**

**MATTHEW 22: 37 - 38**



# Principle 1 – First is not About Time – It's about Order

- Order determines flow
- Priority determines peace

## When God is First

- God first → Life aligns
- God second → Life strains
- God optional → Life fragments

## Key Reflection

“If God is first in principle, but not **first in practice**, He is not first at all”.

## Biblical Example

The Widow of Zarephath - 1<sup>st</sup> Kings 17: 7- 16

- First faith decision
- Provision followed obedience

God often tests our faith by asking for the first, not because He needs it, but because we need to learn to **trust Him.**

## Principle 2 – First is Revealed By What You Do Without Being Reminded

From Principle to Practise

“Whatever takes first place in your life is revealed by what you do, without being reminded”.

## Priority Reality

- What you prioritise, you remember
- What you value, you protect
- What you honour, you plan for

## First-Place Indicators

- **Prayer** without pressure
- **Word** without guilt
- **Worship** without prompting
- **Obedience** without negotiation

## Principle 3 – First Love Produces First Obedience

### John 14:15

If you love me keep my commandments

Love produces obedience

Love in motion, not legalism



## Obedience is not...

- Fear-based obedience
- Performance obedience
- Image obedience

## Obedience is...

- Love-driven obedience
- Flowing from devotion

# Principle 4 – First Trust is Tested When Control Is Challenged

## Proverbs 3:5–6

Trust in the Lord with all you heart and lean not on your own understanding; in all your ways acknowledge him, And he shall direct your paths.

- Trust begins where control ends
- God is first when control is surrendered

## Principle 5 – First Fruits Prove First Place

God always asks for

- The first and not the leftovers
- The best and not the spare
- To be first place in our lives

## Principle of First Applies to...

- Time
- Decisions
- Energy
- Relationships
- Finances

## Principle 6 – First Faith Decisions Shape Future Outcomes

“Small first decisions, create spiritual momentum, and shape future outcomes”

## Faith Decision Examples

- First response – not last resort
- First prayer – not damage control
- First obedience – not delayed surrender

# Personal Question

Where has God moved from first place in your life?



# Declaration

1. I will reorder my life
2. I will reinforce godly rhythms
3. I will recommit to first-priority faith

# Declaration

God is first in my belief

- First in my *behaviour*
- First in my *trust*
- First in my *obedience*
- First in my *decisions*