UBC Bible Study Finding the right Balance For Believers

WHAT IS FOCUS?

- a state or condition permitting clear perception or understanding
- a point of concentration directed attention : EMPHASIS
- a center of activity, attraction, or attention
- adjustment for distinct vision; also : the area that may be seen distinctly or resolved into a clear image





FOCUS IS CRITICAL FOR THE BELIEVER IN JESUS CHRIST...



LESSON ON FOCUS FROM CHARLOTTE'S WEB...





WHEN WE ALLOW THE "RATS" TO STEAL FROM US (OFTEN WITHOUT FULL KNOWLEDGE) WE BECOME UNFOCUSED ON WHAT IS MOST IMPORTANT IN OUR LIVES...



DO YOU HAVE A "TEMPLETON"?

--STEALING YOUR JOY --SETTING UP CAMP IN YOUR MIND --ROBBING YOUR ATTENTION --CAUSING YOU TO FOCUS ON THE WRONG THINGS...



SATAN WANTS YOU TO FOCUS ON THINGS OTHER THAN WHAT GOD DESIRES OF US...WHICH TAKES US OUT OF FOCUS



1. WE LIVE IN THE DIGITAL AGE!!!! FACEBOOK TWITTER INSTAGRAM SNAPCHAT E-MAIL I-MESSAGES TEXTING CELL PHONES ETC..



1. WE LIVE IN A MEDIA AGE T.V INTERACTIVE MEDIA MOVIES YOUTUBE ONLINE PORN FACETIME



WHAT CAUSES YOU TO BE UNFOCUSED?

God Exists:

Hebrews 11:6 (NLT)

⁶ And it is impossible to please God without faith. Anyone who wants to come to him must believe that God exists and that he rewards those who sincerely seek him.

- God has a plan & purpose for our lives:
- Jeremiah 1:4–5 (NLT)
- ⁴ The LORD gave me this message:

⁵ "I knew you before I formed you in your mother's womb. <u>Before you were born I set you</u> <u>apart and appointed you as my prophet to the</u> nations."

God wants us to know about His Plan:

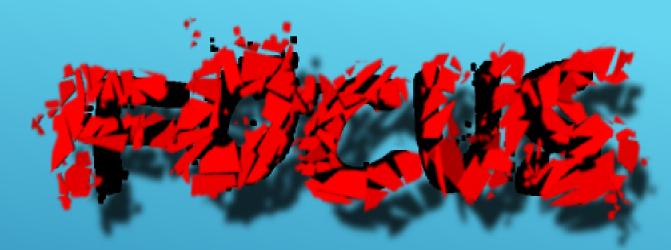
Isaiah 30:21 (NLT)

²¹ Your own ears will hear him.

Right behind you a voice will say,

"This is the way you should go,"

whether to the right or to the left.



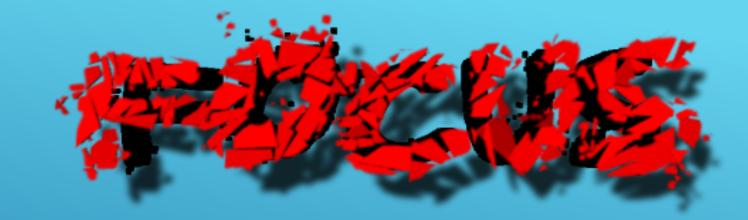
FOCUS ON THE IMAGE OF GOD IN YOU...

GENESIS 1:26 (NLT) ²⁶ THEN GOD SAID, <u>"LET US MAKE HUMAN BEINGS* IN</u> <u>OUR IMAGE, TO BE LIKE US. THEY WILL REIGN</u> OVER THE FISH IN THE SEA, THE BIRDS IN THE SKY, THE LIVESTOCK, ALL THE WILD ANIMALS ON THE EARTH,* AND THE SMALL ANIMALS THAT SCURRY ALONG THE GROUND."



FOCUS ON OUR OBLIGATION TO OTHERS

LEVITICUS 19:11 (NLT) ¹¹ "DO NOT STEAL. "DO NOT DECEIVE OR CHEAT ONE ANOTHER.



FOCUS ON WHAT GOD HAS BROUGHT YOU OUT OF

MARK 7:21–22 (NLT) ²¹ FOR FROM WITHIN, OUT OF A PERSON'S HEART, COME EVIL THOUGHTS, SEXUAL IMMORALITY, THEFT, MURDER, ²² ADULTERY, GREED, WICKEDNESS, DECEIT, LUSTFUL DESIRES, ENVY, SLANDER, PRIDE, AND FOOLISHNESS.



FOCUS ON WHAT GOD HAS PLANNED FOR YOU

JEREMIAH 29:11 (NLT) ¹¹ FOR I KNOW THE PLANS I HAVE FOR YOU," SAYS THE LORD. "THEY ARE PLANS FOR GOOD AND NOT FOR DISASTER, TO GIVE YOU A FUTURE AND A HOPE.



What does the Believer's Focus look like?

Colossians 3:1-2 (NLT) Since you have been raised to new life with Christ, <u>set</u> <u>your sights</u> on the realities of heaven, where Christ sits in the place of honor at God's right hand. 2 <u>Think about</u> the things of heaven, not the things of earth