

# Life Management

*Defining Success Beyond the Marketplace*

Session Three - 11/1/01

## ELEMENT

### *Control*

## ESSENCE

By retaining authority over your allocation of time, energy and resources, you will progress toward your objectives rather than someone else's.

## EXAMPLE

One would assume that people "up the ladder" are in control. Sadly, it seems that the demands of success are even more pressing than those felt on the way up the curve. In the life of Jesus Christ, there are some dynamite lessons to be learned:

1. Keep your appetites away from the wheel.  
*Matthew 4:1-4*
2. Insulate yourself from the perfume of public acclaim.  
*Mark 1:35-39*
3. Inject into your schedule sufficient time for rest and reflection.  
*Mark 6:30-31*

4. Maintain the right to select your associates.

*Mark 5:18-19; Luke 6:12-13*

5. Reject any advancement that will assure your decline.

*John 6:14-15*

6. Avoid all decisions that are argued for image.

*John 7:1-11*

7. Never allow urgency to upstage importance.

*John 11:1-7; 17-21*

## EMPLOYMENT

There is nothing more convicting than examining the recent history of your own life. Using your schedule for the last two weeks, think through the issue of who's in control as you ponder your own current experience. For each line item in your date book where you know one of these seven injunctions was avoided, jot in the number of the principle violated in your book. Then, go down the list and record how many times each is noted. The ones getting the highest score are the ones requiring prompt attention!

- \_\_\_\_\_ 1. Appetite-driven decisions.
- \_\_\_\_\_ 2. Overly influenced by pressure from people.
- \_\_\_\_\_ 3. Needed rest but kept on going.
- \_\_\_\_\_ 4. Gave time to someone I could not afford.
- \_\_\_\_\_ 5. Enticed by position that isn't for me.
- \_\_\_\_\_ 6. Plotted a course because of public appearance.
- \_\_\_\_\_ 7. Fell for urgency and missed something bigger.

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