

Priorities

Regardless of your stage of life, learning to identify, stick to, and manage your priorities will help significantly. It will help you make decisions about what you should and should not be doing, which focuses you on your reason for being. While trying to categorize, compartmentalize, and prioritize your life can seem challenging, there are frameworks you can use.



Master, Mate, Mission(s)

In this framework, our **master** is our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ; our **mate** is our spouse and/or family; and our **mission(s)** are the major life pursuits (e.g., career, school). This framework suggests that one should prioritize their life in this way – master, mate, mission(s). Each in sequence has the most significant impact on those next in line.

Master – Serving Jesus Christ should be a Christian's top priority. Our triune God is the beginning and end of everything else. If we are not right with God, giving Him the attention in our lives He deserves, very often we will feel the effects in our relationships, particularly those closest to us. We will also not be able to handle the responsibilities of our mission as well. Praying, reading the Word, going to church, living in community within the body, serving others, and loving everyone has the most significance.

Mate – When a single man and a single woman marry in the Church, they become one flesh ([Genesis 2:24](#); [Mark 10:7-9](#)). People in marital relationships have a duty to one another. Jobs, houses, cars, and hobbies, come and go; yet, a marriage should remain until death. The spousal relationship should be the closest of any human relationship. By extension, family should come before others as well. Good parents will sacrifice greatly for their children, and children will be brought up in the ways of the Lord. However, if these earthly and temporal relationships draw you away from the Lord, then you jeopardize relationship with the Eternal Father.

Mission(s) – The mission(s) are the major callings in life that all serve the one's primary calling from God. Earning your degree is one major mission. Building your career to the glory and in service of God is another. Earning your degree will support your career. These things are important and deserve appropriate dedication, diligence, and determination. However, if they overtake and destroy those in the mate or master category, then they become meaningless in the long-term.

Making Priorities a Priority

Life is often full of priorities, which is why it is good to have your framework set. If you have not decided what your life priorities are, many people would be happy to decide for you, and very likely, for their own gain. Knowing your priorities will help you make the right decisions in life when things become unclear and murky. Compare that new job, that new relationship or that new life pursuit with your life priority framework. Does it fit? Take on what makes sense, drop what does not, seek out counsel, and pray for discernment along the way. In essence, [make room for the important things](#).

Resources for Help with Priorities

Regent's staff and faculty are here to assist in helping you to discern or think through on how to manage your priorities.

Life Coaching
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Career Services
Counseling Services

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