

**First Things First**  
**Pastor Dave Patterson**  
**01.04.2020**

**USING THIS SERMON DISCUSSION GUIDE**

We have provided all the Scriptures references in the sermon  
and some discussion questions for you to use to facilitate a discussion.

This Sermon Discussion Guide is only a tool to aid you in meeting the needs of your group.  
For most groups, there are too many questions to answer in one session together.

While the questions are important, remember your group's goal is not to get through the  
questions, but to create an atmosphere that will foster true friendships.  
Use the discussion questions as you see fit but emphasize the relationships.

***Position yourself for a year of God's favor.***

**[Psalm 3:6]**

*"Let your face smile on us, LORD." (NLT)*

*"Let the light of your radiant face  
break through and shine upon us!" (TPT)*

**[Matthew 6:33]**

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

Kingdom of God = **The place where God's perfect will is being  
done / where He rules without resistance**

**[1 Samuel 2:30, AMP]**

*Now the LORD declares... For those who honor Me I will honor,  
and those who despise Me (regard with disrespect or mockery)  
will be insignificant and contemptible.*

***Before you hit the road, you have to secure your load. However, a lot of people live their life that way.***

**[John 12:26, AMP]**

***“My Father will honor and shower with favor the one who serves me.”***

**1. Give God the first day of your week.**

***Success begins on Sunday (or Saturday night, if you attend service then)!***

**2. Give God the first and best of your income.**

***When the first is given, the rest is blessed; when the first is sacrificed, the rest is redeemed.***

**[Proverbs 3:9-10, AMP]**

***Honor the LORD with your wealth, with the firstfruits of all your crops; (the best part of everything you produce) then your barns will be filled to overflowing, and your vats will brim over with new wine.***

**3. Give God the first hour of your day**

***It's not about religious duty; it's about relationship.***

**[Psalm 3:5]**

*In the morning, LORD, you will hear my voice;  
in the morning I lay my requests before you  
and wait expectantly.*

**[Psalm 5:3, TPT]**

*At each and every sunrise you will hear my voice  
as I prepare my sacrifice of prayer to you.  
Every morning I lay out the pieces of my life on the altar  
and wait for your fire to fall upon my heart.*

**[Mark 1:35]**

*Very early in the morning, while it was still dark, Jesus got up, left the house and went off to a solitary place, where he prayed.*

**FOR MONDAY—**

1. Jot down the ways that God has been faithful to you in this last year.
2. Order some life priorities with significant figures in your life.

**TALK IT THROUGH**

1. What are some goals or resolutions that are common in the new year? What are some of yours for this new decade?
2. Were there any goals that you had last year that were met with resistance? What were some that were pretty successful?
3. Pastor Dave declared that this is the year of God's favor for us!!! What kind of favor are you believing God for this year?

4. When you hear the phrase “first things first,” what comes to mind? How can you practically apply the principles from Pastor Dave’s message: first day of the week, first of our finances, and first of our day?
5. Read Matthew 6:33. Why should we seek the Kingdom of God FIRST? What is the Kingdom of God?
6. How does investing in your relationship with Jesus impact the quality of your other relationships? Share any experiences you have already had with that.
7. Spend time praying for the ability to put “first things first,” as we kick off the new decade.