

Heaven's Cheat Sheet

Getting The Test Ahead Of Time:

Everyone gets equal **trust** and **opportunity**.

Luke 19:13 Matthew 25:15 John 4:35 Ephesians 4:7-8 2 Peter 3:9

There is an expectation to **use** what we have **been given**.

Luke 19:13-15 Luke 12:42-48 1 Corinthians 3:10-15 1 Peter 4:8-11

Every Christian is in **ministry**...it is not an **option**.

Matthew 5:13-16 John 15:8 1 Corinthians 6:19-20 Romans 12:1-2

Three Questions To Prep For The Final:

1 Peter 2:11-12 Hebrews 12:1-3

- ❶ Am I making **God** look **good** every day?
- ❷ Would I be doing things **differently** if it were up to **me**?
- ❸ What would those closest to me say my **ministry is**?

Practice Test:

My ministry is _____?

Food for Thought for the week of September 4, 2016

(Questions and Scriptures for further study)

1. This weekend we were reminded that we've all been given time, talents and treasures to use for God. While some people have a good understanding of what that looks like, there are some of us who aren't quite sure if we're on the right track. How could the following verses help us better understand how we can use our gifts for God in very practical ways?

1 Peter 2:11-17 *New International Version (NIV)*

Living Godly Lives in a Pagan Society

¹¹ Dear friends, I urge you, as foreigners and exiles, to abstain from sinful desires, which wage war against your soul. ¹² Live such good lives among the pagans that, though they accuse you of doing wrong, they may see your good deeds and glorify God on the day he visits us.

¹³ Submit yourselves for the Lord's sake to every human authority: whether to the emperor, as the supreme authority, ¹⁴ or to governors, who are sent by him to punish those who do wrong and to commend those who do right. ¹⁵ For it is God's will that by doing good you should silence the ignorant talk of foolish people. ¹⁶ Live as free people, but do not use your freedom as a cover-up for evil; live as God's slaves. ¹⁷ Show proper respect to everyone, love the family of believers, fear God, honor the emperor.

Matthew 5:13-16 *New International Version (NIV)*

Salt and Light

¹³ "You are the salt of the earth. But if the salt loses its saltiness, how can it be made salty again? It is no longer good for anything, except to be thrown out and trampled underfoot.

¹⁴ "You are the light of the world. A town built on a hill cannot be hidden. ¹⁵ Neither do people light a lamp and put it under a bowl. Instead they put it on its stand, and it gives light to everyone in the house. ¹⁶ In the same way, let your light shine before others, that they may see your good deeds and glorify your Father in heaven.

Philippians 2:14-16 *New International Version (NIV)*

¹⁴ Do everything without grumbling or arguing, ¹⁵ so that you may become blameless and pure, "children of God without fault in a warped and crooked generation." Then you will shine among them like stars in the sky ¹⁶ as you hold firmly to the word of life. And then I will be able to boast on the day of Christ that I did not run or labor in vain.

How may your day to day life look different if you were to put the above verses into practice?

2. When it comes to giving to God, there are more ways to give than just money. In fact, there are several instances in the Bible where Jesus saw someone giving money to the church and spoke out against them. How could the following verses expand our understanding of what it means to be giving according to God?

Mark 12:41-44 *New International Version (NIV)*

The Widow's Offering

⁴¹ Jesus sat down opposite the place where the offerings were put and watched the crowd putting their money into the temple treasury. Many rich people threw in large

amounts. ⁴² But a poor widow came and put in two very small copper coins, worth only a few cents.

⁴³ Calling his disciples to him, Jesus said, "Truly I tell you, this poor widow has put more into the treasury than all the others. ⁴⁴ They all gave out of their wealth; but she, out of her poverty, put in everything—all she had to live on."

Matthew 23:23-24 *New International Version (NIV)*

²³ "Woe to you, teachers of the law and Pharisees, you hypocrites! You give a tenth of your spices—mint, dill and cumin. But you have neglected the more important matters of the law—justice, mercy and faithfulness. You should have practiced the latter, without neglecting the former. ²⁴ You blind guides! You strain out a gnat but swallow a camel.

1 Timothy 6:17-19 *New International Version (NIV)*¹⁷

Command those who are rich in this present world not to be arrogant nor to put their hope in wealth, which is so uncertain, but to put their hope in God, who richly provides us with everything for our enjoyment.¹⁸ Command them to do good, to be rich in good deeds, and to be generous and willing to share. ¹⁹ In this way they will lay up treasure for themselves as a firm foundation for the coming age, so that they may take hold of the life that is truly life.

If someone were to ask you how you give to God, how would you answer them?

3. Whether we're a brand new Christian or a long time believer, we all have opportunities to help connect people to Jesus. As you think through the places you go and the people you talk to on a daily basis, are there any opportunities to share your faith that you don't want to miss? Are there any people or places where you're intimidated to share your faith? If so, why?