

PILLAR  
5

BECOMING A LEGACY MINDED MAN  
THROUGH  
PRIORITIES

If you fail to plan, you plan to fail.

- **Henry MacKay**

"We live in a constant tension between the urgent and the important."<sup>1</sup>

- **Charles E. Hummel**

**LIFE** is busy...Incredibly busy. The average life often includes non-stop days and booked evenings. It often seems like we are working harder but have less to show for it. When we look on our overly busy days, it is often hard to identify any worthwhile accomplishments. The problem most often is not a lack of effort, but a lack of focusing our energies on established priorities.

# 1 THE TYRANNY OF THE URGENT

1.1 Culturally, we have more luxuries and less time, more social connections but fewer relationships.

1.2 People have more access to us, which leaves less and less free time to engage in things that are good for us and things we enjoy.

1.3 Economic forces are making people work harder than ever just to make it.

1.4 Others have more things than they need but feel like they have no meaning.

1.5 The problem is that we are being asked to do so many things, that we do not focus our time and best energies on the things that are the most important.

1.6 Even though we may complete many tasks, we may not be making progress towards or fulfilling our priorities.

## EXERCISE

What are 3 things that take your time and energy but are not producing desired results?

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## 2 THE TENSION OF PRIORTIES

2.1 Most men can list the things that are most important to them.

2.2 The problem is that there is often a gap between what we “feel and believe” are our priorities and the reality of how we spend our time and energy.

2.3 From sports, many men know what it is like to have a game plan or a business plan at work, but few men have a well thought-out plan for their priorities.

2.4 We often don’t “win” or achieve our priorities because we have no plan to execute and complete our priorities.

2.5 Legacy Minded Men build a plan to succeed at what matters most!

### EXERCISE

What are 3 major priorities in your life?

- 1) \_\_\_\_\_
- 2) \_\_\_\_\_
- 3) \_\_\_\_\_

# 3 ASSIGNING TIME TO YOUR PRIORITIES

3.1 Some priorities are ongoing while others are time or goal oriented.

3.2 We should break down large goals/priorities, to smaller goals and then assign actual time to focus on progress and completion.

3.3 Part of our game plan is assigning time to the things that matter most.

3.4 For instance, it's amazing how if someone has a health crisis, all of a sudden, they have an hour a day to work out when they didn't have time for decades!

3.5 When health becomes a priority, many begin to assign time to improving their health.

3.6 If something is important enough to be a priority, it is important enough to have time dedicated to it.

## EXERCISE

List 3 important tasks and how much time, you will focus on them daily this upcoming week

Task \_\_\_\_\_ Time Spent \_\_\_\_\_

Task \_\_\_\_\_ Time Spent \_\_\_\_\_

Task \_\_\_\_\_ Time Spent \_\_\_\_\_

## 4 CHOOSING BETWEEN GOOD AND LEGACY

4.1 Legacy Minded Men set priorities that will help them win in life today, but they also set priorities that will impact their children and society for decades.

4.2 Sometimes the good can be the enemy of the great.

4.3 There are often areas of our life that we have to disentangle from by letting people know we will not be doing them anymore!

4.4 Disentangling means purposely planning to stop doing certain tasks, activities or responsibilities in order to refocus our time and energy to our priorities.

4.5 To build a lasting legacy, we must often do less things so that we can focus on the most important things that will have the greatest impact.

### PAUSE

What are three things in your life that you would stop doing if possible?

- 1) \_\_\_\_\_
- 2) \_\_\_\_\_
- 3) \_\_\_\_\_

# 5 ELIMINATING THE WASTERS

5.1 One of the reasons we seem to never have a moments rest is because the average person wastes a lot of time on things that are just not necessary or outside their giftedness!

5.2 The average American spends over 5 hours a day watching TV and this actually increases as people get older!<sup>1</sup>

5.3 Imagine if that same 5 hours was spent on building a personal legacy!

5.4 If you add social media, radio etc. most people literally spend the equivalent of a full time job each week on things that produce no legacy.

5.5 By assigning time to our priorities, we fight the drift into just filling our time with things that will never improve our lives.

## PAUSE

What are some “time wasters” that we can simply reduce or eliminate so that our time can be redirected to our priorities?

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<sup>1</sup> <http://www.nydailynews.com/life-style/average-american-watches-5-hours-tv-day-article-1.1711954>

# 6 CHANGING THE WAY WE LIVE

6.1 Living a priority focused life can be life changing!

6.2 Life becomes more fulfilling when we are making progress in our purpose and in the areas that matter most!

6.3 The trap of today's culture is that we can work our entire life to pay a mortgage and at the end of it, we missed out on the quality of relationships and true accomplishments in life.

6.4 If we want to be remembered for certain things in our life, we have to focus on them now and probably for decades to come.

## PAUSE

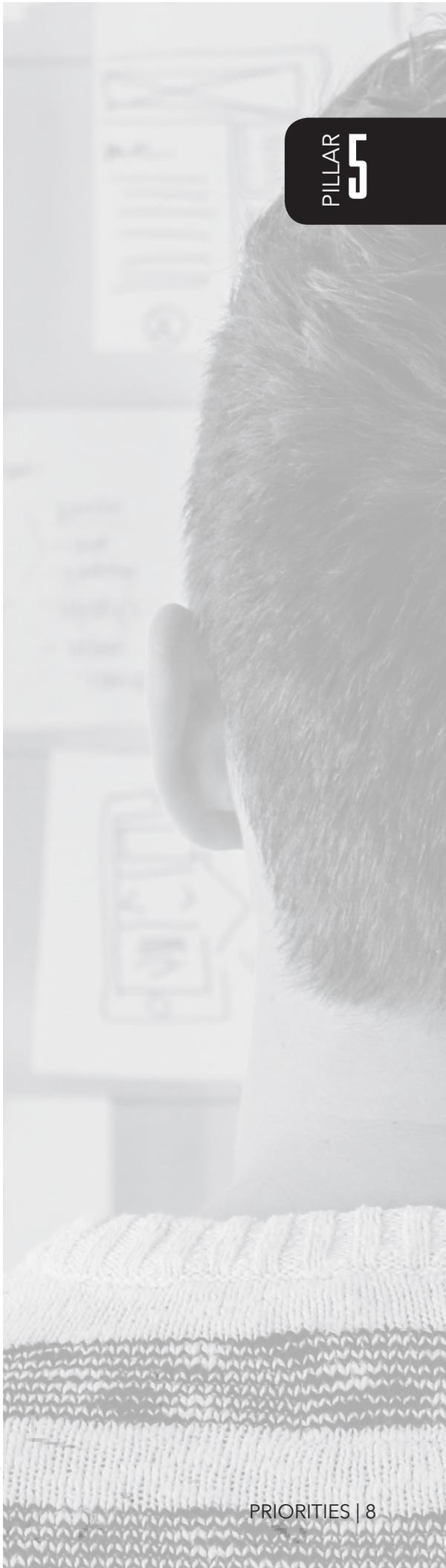
At your funeral, what are three things you want people to remember about your life?

- 1) \_\_\_\_\_
- 2) \_\_\_\_\_
- 3) \_\_\_\_\_

# NOTES



PILLAR  
5





## PRIORITIES

Time to write things out. Write out a priority for each category below and then assign a minimum of 2 hours per week to achieve it or grow in that area:

1) Career Goal: \_\_\_\_\_

2) Relational Goal: \_\_\_\_\_

3) Relational Goal: \_\_\_\_\_

4) Financial Goal: \_\_\_\_\_

TIME/DAY	MON	TUES	WEDS	THURS	FRI	SAT	SUN
6:00AM							
7:00AM							
8:00AM							
9:00AM							
10:00AM							
11:00AM							
12:00PM							
1:00PM							
2:00PM							
3:00PM							
4:00PM							
5:00PM							
6:00PM							
7:00PM							
8:00PM							
9:00PM							
10:00PM							

Let's say you get 8 hours of sleep each night from 10 pm to 6 am. This gives you 14 hours a day (98 hours a week!) to assign to career or personal priorities. You have time, it's all about listing your priorities, assigning time to them and sticking to it!