



## TALK IT OVER

First Things First

### BOTTOM LINE

I keep Jesus first when I pray, stay alert, and act wisely.

### CONVERSATION STARTER

What is an area of life/a skill you believe you can example well? Who was an example to you when you were learning?

### THINGS TO CONSIDER

*What did you hear?*

*What do you think?*

*What will you do?*

### RESOURCES

- The Daily: [newpointeorg/daily](http://newpointeorg/daily)
- [The First and Final Word](#) by Erwin McManus

### KEY VERSES AND QUOTES

*Draw near to God and he will draw near to you.* James 4:8 ESV

*Devote yourselves to prayer, being watchful and thankful. And pray for us, too, that God may open a door for our message, so that we may proclaim the mystery of Christ, for which I am in chains. Pray that I may proclaim it clearly, as I should. Be wise in the way you act toward outsiders; make the most of every opportunity. Let your conversation be full of grace, seasoned with salt, so that you may know how to answer everyone.* Colossians 4:2-6 NIV

“Open doors are useless without obedience. In fact, more of us have open doors than we have the obedience and willingness to walk through them.” – Dwight Mason

“Nothing is more powerful than an example.” – Dwight Mason

### TALK IT OVER

God is like a magnet—when you draw close to Him, He draws close to you. But the opposite is also true. Explain and discuss. Paul calls us to be aligned with the “first things” that keep Jesus first. Define and describe the practice of first things. How does grateful prayer keep Jesus first in your focus? What “others” are part of your prayer focus? What opportunities are in your prayer sights? We often pray for God to work when our obedience is what is needed. Why? How do we overcome this temptation? Paul calls us to “Jesus-first” action in our conversation, choices, and conduct. How can you recognize when Jesus is first in each area? Where do you currently need to give most corrective attention?

### ACTION STEPS (This or one of your own)

Jesus First. This week I will begin habits of prayer, awareness, and action, specifically \_\_\_\_\_

I will daily seek Jesus first in everything, God helping me.

My Action Step: \_\_\_\_\_