

## Long Story Short: Why Jesus Gets My Attention

### Reflect

1. What are a few names that you recognize from popular culture? Examples; Cher, Prince, Lebron, Trump, Obama, others?
2. What are the benefits of being known?
3. What are the benefits of having a good name? See Proverbs 22:1.
4. What are some of the things in your life that warrant your attention?

### Read Your Bible

- Luke 12: 8-10 & Hebrews 4:14-16

### Apply God's Word to Your Life

1. How have you acknowledged Jesus' name?
2. Our Hebrew text reminds us that Christ can empathize with our weakness. In essence God has walked in our shoes. God knows our brokenness, which gives us confidence to approach God just as we are, and to allow God to transform us. Allow yourself to be vulnerable before God and allow God's work to be done in and through you.
3. What is the procedure that is in place that prioritizes that gets your attention? In my experience it is often what is the most demanding item in front of me. You may have heard it said around Hope; "say no to the good in order to say yes to the best". Give God the attention God deserves and allow God to help you achieve what is best for you. Sometimes that may mean saying no to good things.

I'm guessing there has been some thoughts or conversation regarding verse 10 of the Luke text:

*"<sup>10</sup> And everyone who speaks a word against the Son of Man will be forgiven, but anyone who blasphemes against the Holy Spirit will not be forgiven."*

We may have a good understanding of God's beautiful forgiveness but what is this "will not be forgiven" stuff? What is meant by "*blasphemes against the Holy Spirit*"? This is most commonly thought to be where one attributes to Satan the work that has been done by the Holy Spirit. Knowingly giving Satan the credit for something that has been knowingly done by God's Spirit. Basically, if you are concerned about this, it means you haven't nor will you commit such a grievous sin. Perhaps this has gotten your attention? That's good. God deserves your attention. This is life and death stuff worthy of our full attention. Always remembering God's unimaginable, unfathomable, unconditional love God has for you!

### Pray

Gracious God, we are grateful for Your love for us. We are grateful for the attention that You consistently give to us. Help us to pay attention to You. Help us to become more aware of Your presence in our daily lives. And may we give You the freedom to use to accomplish Your will in and through us. In Jesus' name. Amen.