

The Big Rocks

ne day an expert in time management was speaking to a group of business students and to drive home a point. used an illustration those students will never forget. As he stood in front of the group of high-powered over-achievers he said, "Okay, time for a quiz." Then he pulled out a one-gallon, wide mouthed Mason jar and placed it on the table in front of him.

Next he brought out about a dozen fist-sized rocks and carefully placed them, one at a time, into the jar. When the jar was filled to the top and no more rocks would fit inside, he asked, "Is the jar full?" Everyone in the class said, "Yes."

He then reached under the table and pulled out a bucket of gravel. He dumped some gravel in the jar and shook the jar causing pieces of gravel to work themselves down into the space between the big rocks.

Then he asked the group once more, "Is the jar full?" By this time the class was on to him. "Probably not," one of them answered. "Good," he replied. He reached under the table and brought out a bucket of sand. He started dumping the sand in the jar and it went into all the spaces left between the rocks and the gravel. Once more he asked the question, "Is the jar full?" "No," the class answered.

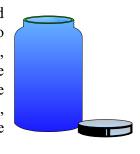
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Sunday 9 AM & 4 PM — Wednesday 6 PM

Then he grabbed a pitcher of water and began to pour it in until the jar was filled to the brim. He looked at the class and asked, "What is the point of this illustration?" One eager student raised his hand and said, "The point is, no matter how full your schedule is, if you try really hard you can always fit some more things in."



"No," the speaker replied. "That's not the point. The truth this illustration teaches us is that if you don't put the big rocks in first, you'll never get them in at all." If the sand, gravel, and water had been placed in the jar first, then the larger rocks would have never fit.

What are the "big rocks" in your life? The Lord and the Church? Your children? Your loved ones? Your education? Your dreams? A worthy cause? Teaching and helping others? Doing things that you enjoy? Time for yourself? Your health? Your spouse?

Remember to put these big rocks in first or you'll never get them in at all. If you concentrate on the smaller things of life that are usually less important, then you'll run out of time for taking care of the really important things of life.

What are the 'big rocks' in my life?

—adapted �





A million dollars& a bale of hay will be worth the same on judgment day.



—Continue to remember Jean Coffey, Sally Marshall, Jewell Watkins, Jimmy Terry, Audrey Terry, and Alroy McDaniel.

- —The mother and sister of **Dennis Brangers** are both quite ill with cancer. He has asked us to remember them in prayer. His wife is also at home recovering from surgery.
- —Congratulations to **Alroy** and **Lois McDaniel** who celebrated their 61st wedding anniversary this past Monday, December 12.
- —**Kerry McDaniel** was omitted from the December birthday list. His birthday is December 26.

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During the Gulf War I remember seeing a news account of a ship hitting a mine just outside the Persian Gulf. The odd thing about this mining is that it occurred in waters that the U.S. Government had deemed "100% safe." Obviously it was not.

How often do we consider a particular sin "100% safe," in that we think we would never commit that particular sin. It's true that we all have areas in which we are strong, but never take any temptation lightly. Each temptation has the potential to cause us to lose our souls.

—Marty Edwards

"Wherefore let him that thinketh he standeth take heed lest he fall."

—I Corinthians 10:12

Sunday, December 11, 2011		
Classes	14	Luke 14:27-15:10
Preaching	21	I AM (Exodus 3:14)
Contribution	\$462.00	
Evening	15	Nahum 1:1-3:19
Wednesday, December 14, 2011		
Classes	21	Deuteronomy 10:1-22

Visitors— Dec 11 (AM) Lurline Mires (Rex, KY)

Bible Quiz

The tribe of Levi was separated to bear what?

Last Week's Answer—Heaven (Deuteronomy 9:1)

Don't forget our weekly ad in The Hart County News-Herald

—God's Plan of Salvation—

- 1. Hear the Gospel (Romans 10:14)
- 2. Believe on the Lord and His Word (Mark 16:16; John 8:24)
- 3. Repent of your sins (Luke 13:3,5; Acts 17:30)
- 4. Confess Christ (Matthew 10:32,33; Luke 12:8; Romans 10:9)
- 5. Be baptized (immersed in water) for the remission of sins (Acts 2:38; Mark 16:16; Galatians 3:27; I Peter 3:21)
- 6. Live a faithful, dedicated life (Revelation 2:10; II Peter 1:5-10)