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Take Some Irons Out Of The Fire

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We have a common idiom that describes someone who has ‘too many irons in the fire.’ The reference is to a blacksmith who is trying to work several items in the fire of his forge. In fact, he has too many objects in the fire and some will ruin before he is able to do his necessary work. Today, while there aren’t many blacksmiths around, we still use the expression to describe someone who is trying to juggle too many responsibilities and activities. The end result is that some things don’t get done as they should.

Christians must be careful about having ‘too many irons in the fire.’ Jobs, careers, educational pursuits, hobbies, recreation, kid’s activities, various programs, etc., all have the potential to keep us so busy that we allow spiritual things to get crowded off (or at least seriously downgraded on) our list of priorities. We cannot afford to let this happen.

In Matthew 24:37ff, Jesus said, “As the days of Noah were, so shall also the coming of the Son of man be. For as in the days that were before the flood they were eating and drinking, marrying and giving in marriage, until the day that Noah entered into the ark, and knew not until the flood came, and took them all away; so shall also the coming of the Son of man be.” People were, of course, very wicked in that time. But look at the list of things they were doing. Note that not all of them were necessarily sinful. But, clearly, they had excluded God from all their thoughts and plans. They had even ignored the warnings that Noah was preaching (2 Peter 2:5). They were just too busy for God – and that, friends, is TOO busy!

So, look at your schedule again. Re-evaluate your commitments and activities. Are you crowding God out of the top spot? If so, you need to ‘take some irons out of the fire.’ Think!