

CREATE YOUR PERSONAL PRIORITY PROTOCOL AND LIVE UNAPOLOGETICALLY For what shall it profit a man, if he shall gain the whole world, and lose his own soul? Mark 8:36 (KJV)

The summer before my daughter's 15 th birthday, I was riding a bus to Manhattan, mulling over my doctoral program application. I wanted to complete a Ph.D. in adult education. I planned for weeks. I gathered application materials, ordered transcripts, and requested references. On that hot July day, I had a sudden urge to look at how many weekends remained until my daughter turned 18 and went away to college. With less than 175 weekends left to spend with her, sow into her life, build our relationship, and enjoy her in my home fulltime, I quickly realized that I did not want to spend this irreplaceable time drafting a dissertation. Did I still want to obtain my Ph.D.? Yes! But spending this precious time with my teenage children took priority.

In accordance with my Priority Protocol, there will be time to advance my education. However, I only had the opportunity to spend the last two years of high school with my children once. Likewise, completing a Priority Protocol will help you to gain insight into your personal priorities by establishing which areas of your life are most important to you in this season.

To create your own Priority Protocol, start by ordering the following eight life areas in order of your priorities, with 1 being the most important and 8 being the least important: career and business, education and personal growth, family, faith, finances, health and wellness, ministry/public service, and recreation. Your predetermined Priority Protocol will remove the pressure and angst from your decision making and help you to live your priorities without apology.

What is most important to you?

Do your decisions reflect those priorities?

Are you ready to live unapologetically?

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