



Series- "Going Deeper"
Sermon – "The Challenge"
Rev. Adrian S. Taylor
Springhill M.B. Church of Gainesville, FL
120 SE Williston Rd.
Gainesville, FL 32641
1 Corinthians 2:9-11

1 Corinthians 2 [Read This Chapter](#)

2:9

[But as](#) it is [written](#) *, [Eye hath not seen, nor](#) * * [ear heard, neither have entered into](#) the [heart](#) of [man](#), the things [which God](#) hath [prepared](#) for them that [love him](#).

2:10

[But God](#) hath [revealed](#) them unto [us by his Spirit](#): for the [Spirit searcheth](#) all things, [yea](#), the deep [things](#) of [God](#).

2:11

[For what man knoweth](#) the [things](#) of a [man, save](#) the [spirit](#) of [man which](#) is [in him?](#) [even so](#) the [things](#) of [God knoweth](#) no [man, but](#) the [Spirit](#) of [God](#).

I. Set Your House In Order

❖ "Thus says the Lord, Set thine house in order; for thou shalt die, and not live..." [2 Kings 20:1]

a. The Scriptures

- i. Proverbs 22:7 "The rich ruleth over the poor, and the borrower is servant to the lender."
- ii. Matthew 25:14-21 "thou [deliveredst](#) unto [me five talents](#): [behold](#), I have [gained beside them five talents more](#)."
- iii. Genesis 40 – Joseph interprets Pharaoh's dream informing him of the coming famine, and the need to store up now for meager times.

b. The Strategy

- i. Prepare a household budget for the year.
- ii. Tithe regularly – this is biblically mandated by God and should be a regular occurrence
- iii. Prepare all your business documents for emergency needs.
- iv. Save & invest regularly

c. The arrogant husband who took all the credit for the crops...

II. Strengthen Relationships

❖ "This is the message you have heard from the beginning: We should love one another." 1 John 3:11

a. The Scriptures

- i. John 13:34 – "A new commandment I give you: Love on another..."
- ii. Proverbs 23:22-26 – Shares how fathers and mothers should conduct themselves.
- iii. 1 Thessalonians 5:13 – "And to esteem them very highly in love for their work's sake..."

b. The Strategy

- i. Strengthen family relationships through regular family prayer and devotion, communication, family fun nights.
- ii. Strengthen Community Relationships through volunteering, mentoring, participating in Community Outreach Ministries.
- iii. Strengthen Church Relationships through showing genuine concern, and love for the saints. Sending cards and letters

c. Illustration – Working father whose son asked to borrow \$50 for an hour of his time.



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III. Seek God

❖ "For what shall it profit a man, if he shall gain the whole world, and lose his own soul? [Mark 8:36]

a. The Scriptures

- i. John 5:9 – "Search the Scriptures: for in them ye think ye have eternal life..."
- ii. 2 Timothy 2:15 - "Study to shew thyself approved unto God a workman..."
- iii. Psalm 1:2 – "But his delight is in the law, and in his law..."

b. The Strategy

- i. Fast & Pray regularly during the 3.6.9. prayer and fasting campaign.
- ii. Read the Word of God regularly and memorize Scripture as the Psalmist has said, "Thy word have I hid in my heart that I might not sin against God." [Psalm 119:11]
 1. Paul told Timothy to rightly divide – butchers need sharp instruments.
 2. People leave looking for "Word" churches when all they have to do is study for themselves.
 3. Spoon fed Christians who become aggravated by the meat of the word.
- iii. Move toward an authentic relationship with God and forsake superficial religious practices.
- iv. Fanny Crosby was visiting Mr. W. H. Doane, in his home in Cincinnati, Ohio. They were talking together about the nearness of God, as the sun was setting and evening shadows were gathering around them. The subject so impressed the well-known hymn-writer, that before retiring she had written the words to this hymn, which has become one of the most useful she has ever written. The music by Mr. Doane so well fitted the words that the hymn has become a special favorite wherever the Gospel Hymns are known.

*I am Thine, O Lord, I have heard Thy voice,
And it told Thy love to me;
But I long to rise in the arms of faith
And be closer drawn to Thee.*

Refrain

*Draw me nearer, nearer blessed Lord,
To the cross where Thou hast died.
Draw me nearer, nearer, nearer blessed Lord,
To Thy precious, bleeding side.*

*There are depths of love that I cannot know
Till I cross the narrow sea;
There are heights of joy that I may not reach
Till I rest in peace with Thee.*