

So, school's almost out ... anybody having trouble staying focused?

Sun stays out later and later ... anybody having trouble getting to sleep early?

Summer vacation is SO close, you can almost ... ALMOST ... touch it.

Just a few more days.

Who's got a summer job? Where are you working?

Do people go to summer camp anymore? Anybody working at a summer camp?

What about a summer mission trip?

Who's going to just lay around, sleep in, stay up late, and do absolutely nothing?

Anybody going to stay glued to television or video games?

Now, for your summer vacation, it's my hope that you won't forget about God ... or forget about Church ... or forget to pray.

And I want to give you a SEVEN step plan to help you do that.

FIRST: Keep God in first place.

SECOND: Do something every day to keep God in first place.

THIRD: It's not about you ... do something for somebody else.

FOURTH: Don't forget about Church on Sunday, and don't forget about prayer.

FIFTH: Don't be a jerk ... and don't let other people get under your skin.

SIXTH: Don't do anything I wouldn't do.

SEVENTH: Always be good.

Now you're probably wondering ... how am I ever going to remember that?

Or maybe your thinking "blah blah blah, get on with it Father, it's almost summertime."

BUT you already know all seven of these things that I just told you ... and if you can stay connected with it, you'll do just fine.

This is how you're going to remember those seven things:

KEEP GOD FIRST

Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be Thy name.

DO SOMETHING EVERY DAY TO KEEP GOD FIRST

Thy kingdom come.

IT'S NOT ABOUT YOU ... DO SOMETHING FOR SOMEBODY ELSE

Thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven.

DON'T FORGET ABOUT CHURCH AND PRAYER

Give us this day our daily bread.

DON'T BE A JERK, AND DON'T LET OTHER PEOPLE GET UNDER YOUR SKIN

And forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us.

DON'T DO ANYTHING I WOULDN'T DO

And lead us not into temptation.

ALWAYS BE GOOD

But deliver us from evil.

The "Our Father" is Jesus' SEVEN STEP PROGRAM. And you already know the words.

Every time you need to remember those seven steps, just run through the Our Father.

So, I'll see you on Facebook, or maybe see you in town, or hopefully see you in church.

And that's your summertime church homework assignment ... that's your seven-step program for the summer ... and hopefully for every day.