

Third Thursday Notes

June 19, 2025 - Getting The Most Out Of An Event

You're headed to a conference/training/event... how do you get the most out of it?

Before The Event

- **Prepare by being quiet before the Lord.** Help me to quiet my mind to hear your voice.
- **Prepare to be engaged.** Give your best energy, effort, and attitude.
- **Prepare to hear something from God.** Much planning has gone into this; God can and will use it.
- **Prepare by inviting Him to lead you.** Trust the sovereignty of God over the event.

During The Event

- **Don't check out.** The students are all set up, so I am going to step out. Nope.
- **Don't get sucked into criticism and sarcasm.** You're not going to like everything. Address any actual errors head-on, but be gracious and charitable.
- **Model what you want to see.** Your students will follow your non-verbal lead.
- **Follow speakers not subjects.** If you enjoy and benefit from a speaker, consider their session regardless of topic.

After The Event

- **Schedule time to debrief** (even before the event starts). DO NOT miss the opportunity to reflect on what happened.
- **Encourage students to privately debrief before the group debrief.** What themes kept coming up for you?
- **Distill your notes.** Notetaking does not equal learning or action.
- **Share takeaways, learnings, AND action steps.** Your modeling of this teaches and encourages your students.

How does this affect you? How does this affect your leaders? How does this affect your students?