MISSION BRIEF

WEEKLY TOPIC SHEET

SUMMARY

The transition from high school to college brings new responsibilities, relationships, and opportunities to grow, both academically and spiritually. Dr. Brian Harrell, professor at Liberty University, joins Tommy to offer a professor's perspective on what students can expect and how they can prepare for this next chapter. He shares practical advice on managing your time, communicating with professors, taking advantage of office hours, and learning to take responsibility for your education. Drawing on more than two decades of ministry experience in Africa, Dr. Harrell also discusses the importance of developing a personal relationship with Christ, thinking critically about what you're taught, and finding Christian community while building relationships with people who believe differently. His encouragement to high school seniors is to begin developing intentional habits now so they can enter college prepared to grow in their faith, pursue meaningful relationships, and make the most of every opportunity.

KEY WORDS

- Independence
- Time Management
- Student-Professor Relationships
- Spiritual Growth
- Christian Community
- Living Out Your Faith

THINK ABOUT IT!

What responsibilities do you currently rely on others to manage for you? How can you begin taking greater ownership of your time, schedule, and education before heading to college?

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Podcast Episode 164:
Before You Get to College: Advice from a College Professor

Blog Posts:

- Don't Wait Until College to Start Practicing Independence
- How Much Independence Should You Have as a High School Senior?

ACTIVITY SHEET

MONDAY	Listen to Episode 164 featuring Dr. Brian Harrell. Write down three takeaways from his advice. What surprised you most about the expectations college professors have for students?
TUESDAY	College requires more independence and responsibility. Look at your schedule for the week and identify one area where you could manage your time better. Make a plan to take ownership of that responsibility.
WEDNESDAY	Dr. Harrell emphasizes building relationships with professors. Practice writing a professional email to a teacher asking a thoughtful question or requesting help. How can strong communication skills benefit you in college?
THURSDAY	Dr. Harrell encourages students to listen well and build relationships with people who are different from them. Have a conversation with someone you don't usually talk to. Ask thoughtful questions and practice genuinely listening to their story.
FRIDAY	Read Matthew 5:14-16 and reflect on what it means to be a light on your future campus. Write down two ways you can keep Christ at the center of your college experience and one way you can reflect His love to others.