

The 5<sup>th</sup> Sunday after Epiphany ~ Sunday, February 9, 2020

“2020 Vision ~ Godly Time Management”

Ephesians 5:6-21

“Live life with a sense of responsibility, not as those who do not know the meaning and purpose of life, but as those who do. Make the best use of your time, despite all the difficulties of these days.” (Ephesians 5:15-16)

### 3 THINGS GOD HAS TO SAY ABOUT TIME MANAGEMENT

- **Time management is actually \_\_\_\_\_ management.**

We never get \_\_\_\_\_ time back and so, we need to decide what things are worth investing our life in—what’s \_\_\_\_\_; what’s a priority—and then leave the rest.

- **Time management is all about \_\_\_\_\_.**

The problem isn’t lack of time, it’s that we don’t always use the time we have wisely or \_\_\_\_\_.

“There is a right time and a right way to do everything, but we know so little!” (Ecclesiastes 8:6)

- **Time management can be \_\_\_\_\_.**

“Teach us to number our days and recognize how few they are. Help us to spend them as we should.” (Psalm 90:12)

We talk a lot about the stewardship of our finances; however, the stewardship of our time is just as important, because time is our most \_\_\_\_\_ commodity.

### 4 BIBLICAL PRINCIPLES OF GODLY TIME MANAGEMENT

**Step #1: \_\_\_\_\_ your lifestyle.**

“Look carefully at how you live! Live purposefully and worthily and accurately, not as the unwise but as wise, sensible, intelligent people.” (Ephesians 5:15)

We need to be \_\_\_\_\_—we need to have direction and \_\_\_\_\_ in our life—a goal, objective, purpose.

“...let us also lay aside every weight and the sin that clings so closely, and let us run with perseverance the race that is set before us, looking to Jesus the pioneer and perfecter of our faith...” (Hebrews 12:1-2)

If we want to save time, we’ve got to know where we’re \_\_\_\_\_ it.

Is this the best use of my time?

Is this really the way I want to spend my life?

Does how I spend my time relate to my purpose, goal, or focus?

Does my use of time honour God?

“Give careful thought to your ways.” (Haggai 1:7)

“I pondered the direction of my life, and I turned to follow Your word.” (Ps 119:59)

**Step #2. \_\_\_\_\_ what is important.**

“Don’t be vague and thoughtless and foolish, but understand and firmly grasp what is the will of the Lord.” (Ephesians 5:17)

God wants us to focus our time and energy on His \_\_\_\_\_ for our life. He wants that to be our \_\_\_\_\_.

If we want to be truly happy, truly satisfied, we will try to \_\_\_\_\_ our priorities and choices with \_\_\_\_\_ purpose.

### GOD’S 5 PURPOSES FOR OUR LIVES

- God wants us to \_\_\_\_\_ Him.
- God wants us to \_\_\_\_\_ In Him.
- God wants us to \_\_\_\_\_ Him and others.
- God wants us to \_\_\_\_\_ Him with others.
- God wants us to \_\_\_\_\_ Him in worship.

Much of what we do is for the \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_.

We were made for \_\_\_\_\_. The things of this life—all of our accomplishments and achievements—will eventually \_\_\_\_\_.

“So I came to hate life because everything done here under the sun is so troubling. Everything is meaningless—like chasing the wind. I came to hate all my hard work here on earth, for I must leave to others everything I have earned. And who can tell whether my successors will be wise or foolish? Yet they will control everything I have gained by my skill and hard work under the sun. How meaningless!” (Ecclesiastes 2:17-19)

Effective time management isn’t cramming more in or finding \_\_\_\_\_ ways to get more done. It is knowing what matters \_\_\_\_\_, doing that, and not worrying about the rest.

**Step #3. \_\_\_\_\_ your energy.**

“Don't be drunk with wine, because that will ruin your life. Instead, let the Holy Spirit fill and control you.” (Ephesians 5:18)

Time management is also \_\_\_\_\_ management.

Every time you add something to your calendar you need to ask yourself what am I going to \_\_\_\_\_ doing? This is called economizing your energy—reducing or eliminating the time \_\_\_\_\_ in your life.

“I may do anything, but everything is not useful or constructive.” (1 Corinthians 10:23)

When it comes to time, we often settle for good, instead of best. We often spend major amounts of time on minor things—things that, at the end of the day, don't really matter.

**What are your time wasters at work, school, or home?**

**7 QUICK WAYS TO ECONOMIZE OUR ENERGY**

- Apply the \_\_\_\_\_ Principle.
- Learn the two middle letters of the alphabet: \_\_\_\_\_.
- Group \_\_\_\_\_ things together.
- Use \_\_\_\_\_ time.
- Maintain a \_\_\_\_\_ attitude.
- Turn off the \_\_\_\_\_.
- Put \_\_\_\_\_ first.

**Step #4. \_\_\_\_\_ the present.**

“Make the most of your opportunities because these are evil days.” (Ephesians 5:16)

We can't live in \_\_\_\_\_ and we can't live in \_\_\_\_\_.  
We only have \_\_\_\_\_—this moment, right now—and we have to utilize what we have.

This means taking \_\_\_\_\_ of today—being aware of the \_\_\_\_\_ right now in this moment and capitalizing on the current situation.

We don't always see this because a lot of us are \_\_\_\_\_, and we're waiting for the \_\_\_\_\_ time.

“If you wait for perfect conditions, you will never get anything done.” (Ecclesiastes 11:4)



**Do you want to this year to be better than last?**

**Do you want to get the most out of 2020?**

None of us have a \_\_\_\_\_ tomorrow. It's one \_\_\_\_\_ at a time, and our next breathe could be our \_\_\_\_\_.

**Whatever you're going to do with your life—in this season; at this age and stage—you need to do it now! Start today!**

**Why settle for good when you can have the best.**

**As we journey through 2020, may David's prayer in Psalm 90:12 be our prayer; “Lord, teach us to number our days.”**

**ADDITIONAL NOTES:**