

Making the Most of Our Time

-Ron Stullenbarger -

Ephesians 5:15-16 warns us, *"Look carefully then how you walk, not as unwise but as wise, making the best use of the time, because the days are evil."* Our time is of the utmost importance here on earth. We'll never get back the days we spend frivolously pursuing the things of the world. We'll never get back the time spent outside of God's purposes of receiving and giving love. Our time here is too limited and too important to spend on burdens, stresses, sin, and worldly pursuits. If we are going to make the most of this life, we must learn to center our time around the eternal value of meeting with God. It is for this reason James 4:13-15 says, *"Come now, you who say, 'Today or tomorrow we will go into such and such a town and spend a year there and trade and make a profit' — yet you do not know what tomorrow will bring. What is your life? For you are a mist that appears for a little time and then vanishes. Instead you ought to say, 'If the Lord wills, we will live and do this or that.'"*

Looking at the ways in which we spend our time is one of the best ways to assess the posture of our heart. If we spend all our time working for and thinking about the things of the world, we can know that we have not yet come into a right revelation of God's purposes for us. If we spend the majority of our time simply getting through our days trying to find happiness rather than seeking the face of our heavenly Father that we might receive sustaining, transcendent joy, we can know that we have yet to surrender our lives fully to our King.

The great thing about the nature of time is that it is completely ours to do with what we will. We can, right now, decide to make the best use of our time according to the purposes of God as revealed to us through Scripture. We can, right now, decide to stop wasting precious minutes on that which is fleeting and temporal and instead invest our days in the lasting, eternal, and fruitful purposes of our heavenly Father.

Psalms 90:12 says, *"Teach us to number our days that we may get a heart of wisdom."* God longs to teach us how to use our days wisely. He longs to give us a heart of wisdom that we might center our lives on meeting with Him. You have God Himself dwelling within you, ready to guide you into a lifestyle of purposeful living. Choose today to open your heart and mind to the Teacher, the very Spirit of God, and live according to His will. May you find peace, joy, and purpose in the ways in which you invest your time.