

TIME MANAGEMENT

Session 6B

God desires for us to be productive with our time — eternally productive. It is another resource He asks us to use for His purposes. We all know (and have experienced) that bad management of God's resources leads to bad fruit. Poor time management can be a tremendous stress on a family, just like poor financial management. God has given us principles to live by to ensure we are using our time wisely.

- I. Labor and spin, labor and spin . . .
 - a. Fact: That to which we give our time, is that to which we give our lives. *"For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also"* (Matthew 6:21).
 - b. Our bent is Psalm 127:2.
 - c. Our protection is Psalm 127:1.
 - d. Who is building your house?

*A song of ascents. Of Solomon.
Unless the Lord builds the house,
its builders labor in vain.
Unless the Lord watches over the city,
the watchmen stand guard in vain.
In vain you rise early and stay up late,
toiling for food to eat — for He grants
sleep to those He loves.
Psalm 127:1-2*

- II. Whose time is it anyway?
 - a. Fact: It is God's time (Matthew 24:36).
 - b. God defines our time, and it is limited. *"All the days ordained for me were written in Your book before one of them came to be"* (Psalm 139:16).
 - c. The world will say that you are able to define your own time — i.e. you can beat the aging process, triple your efficiency, do more in less time, etc.
 - d. Our lives are not our own. It is God's time. He knows the exact hour. (1 Corinthians 6:19)

- III. Whose kingdom are you building?
 - a. Read Matthew 6:25-33.
 - b. **WE** cannot add or make more time. *"Who of you by worrying can add a single hour to his life"* (Matthew 6:27)?
 - c. When we seek our kingdom first, there is chaos. When we seek God's kingdom first, there is peace.

- IV. There is enough time for everything **under God!**
 - a. *"There is a time for everything, and a season for every activity under heaven"* (Ecclesiastes 3:1).
 - b. *"His divine power has given us everything we NEED for life and Godliness through our knowledge of Him who called us by His own glory and goodness"* (2 Peter 1:3).

- V. How should we organize our time?
 - a. Work on what counts! Prioritize: God, family, others.
 - b. Take God's point of view, not our own. *"There is a way that seems right to a man, but in the end it leads to death"* (Proverbs 14:12).

- c. Commit your plans to God. *“Commit to the Lord whatever you do, and your plans will succeed.”* (Proverbs 16:3).
 - d. Have a morning quiet time, and focus on God’s desires for the day.
 - e. Write out life goals (one sheet).
 - f. Write out a year at a glance (one sheet).
 - g. Write out a monthly schedule: plan monthly; operate weekly.
- VI. Practical tips for marriage and family . . .
- a. Have a weekly meeting.
 - i. Review your life goals.
 - ii. Discuss how you will spend your time this week.
 - iii. Touch base on what is going on in each other’s life.
 - iv. Discuss problems (finances, lack of timeliness, etc.).
 - b. Review month’s activities.
 - c. Set aside family time that is sacred and untouched (date nights, family day).
 - i. Protects your marriage (husbands, it protects your wives).
 - ii. Protects your kids.
- VII. Take it home . . .
- a. **Challenge/Homework: Give your schedule over to God each morning. Discuss this week’s plans with one another (meetings, appointments, desires for the week, etc.) and plan a date night where you leave your phones at home!**