

The Five T's of Stewardship

Time

Ephesians 5:1-21 (14-17)

I. Time is created by God and used by God for man

A. God is above it – 1 day like a thousand years and ...

1. He worked before time and will after **2 Timothy 1:9, Titus 1:2-3**
2. Jesus knew His time – John 5 times – it is not, is my time.
3. No one knows when Christ will come again – it could be today

B. God controls it

1. **Galatians 4** – in the fullness of time God sent Christ
2. **Hebrews 9:27** God has granted it to us
3. Jesus told us to work in the day for night is coming

II. Time is limited

A. Brief

1 Chronicles 29:15 – Like a shadow

Psalms 39:5 – like a breath

James 4:14 – like a vapor

B. Difficult

Job 14:2 – full of trouble

John 16:3 – you will have trouble

Psalms 90:10

III. Time lost cannot never be regained

A. Danger

Presuming we have unlimited

Boasting – **Psalms 27:1**

Planning to indulge **Luke 12:19**

Procrastinating – convenient – Felix to Paul

B. Wasting

Legitimate use – work, family, living

Leisure – rest and relaxing

Lost – Past Complaining, bitterness, unforgiveness, hatred

- **Future** Envy, lust, dreaming. Worry

IV. Time is a Gift

A. Given as part of the grace of God

God waited for nations to turn

Revelation 2:21 – Jezebel given time to repent

B. Given as a responsibility

Psalms 90:12 – number our days

Matthew 24 – 25 – be ready for His coming

2 Peter 3:10-17 Day of Lord will come – be on your guard

Understand the times we live in – **Romans 13:11**

C. Given to be used for God

1. Jesus is our example – never hurried or lazy but

Completed the work God gave Him

2. Jesus gave us the pattern

Matthew 6:33 – Seek first the Kingdom of God

3. Jesus gave us the promise **John 14:12-14**

What shall we do with Time?

1. Acknowledge it as a gift from God

2. Be aware of the lies of Satan

You have all the time in the world – do it later

You are too busy for God – wait till a better time

It is too late to change – give up

3. Prioritize according to God's priorities

Seek Him first

Start each day with time for God

Give Him what is His Time to worship, to serve

Idea – tithe of your time – 1.6 - 2.4 hours a day

4. Wisely begin today

God has given us enough time to know Him

Coming Events

Annual General Meeting January 31 after service

Hear reports of progress and plans for future

The Macedonian Call – May 14-24

Mission trip to Skopje, Macedonia

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