EPHESIANS 5: 15-17 Spend Time Wisely - It brings Freedom; Not More Stress

8/21/22

READ TEXT: Ephesians 5: 15-17

Time Management Paper: 1. and 2. Read

<u>Paul is concerned that the Ephesian Christians will not know how to live out their new life in Christ. Dangers to be pulled away are everywhere.</u> Without a plan they could easily drift back into that old life.

How did Paul help them?

- 1. To know they have a new life in Christ that makes it possible to overcome the old life, and replaces that old identity with the identity that God had planned for them before the world was created! Ephesians chapter 1 and 4.
- 2. Learn God's will for your life. Ephesians chapter one and 3 have two of his prayers for us. It gives the secret focus of the Christian life.
- 3. Walk through this life carefully, yet joyfully. Ephesians 5: 18-20. Make the most of the time. Ephesians 5: 15-17

TEXT TODAY: *********************************

5: 15 - You can be happy and careful at the same time.

Example: Driving a car, listening to music, but always ready with a plan in an emergency.

Example: Swimming, or surfing at the ocean.

5:16 - "time' - Kairos

Two different words in Greek for time:

Chronos-

- Time, sequence, the general, mechanical passing of time.

Kairos -

- Involves time; but the focus is on an "opportunity."

The exactly right moment to say or do something. A critical moment!

Timothy 2: 5-6 (Kairos)

Galatians 6:10 (Kairos)

"With chronos we count the years; while with Kairos we make the years count."

Acts 24:24-25 (Kairos)

5:16 (continued) - "making the most of" is one Greek word!

Exagoradzomenoi -

Ex - " to take out of "

Agora - "the market place"

Dzomenoi - "buy up"

Translation: "To buy up the time from the marketplace of time."

Think of time as an object to be purchased.

5:17 Wuest Expanded translation. Page 465 (5: 15-17) There is no quality of life without self-reflection before God. Does your life just seem like a string of random events?



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TIME MANAGEMENT

- 1. PLANNING is crucial to not wasting time or being distracted by worthless activity.
- 2. It is important to extract the PRECIOUS from the worthless. Set PRIORITIES.
- 3. As disciples (i.e. learners) it is essential to THINK about how we allocate our time.
- 4. IMPORTANT is not equal to URGENT. The urgent things tend to absorb our time so there is none left for the important. If there is no concept of <u>most</u> important vs. <u>less</u> important, the urgent will manipulate your life. It may seem urgent but what is really important?
- 5. Self-analysis question—"Am I spending time or INVESTING time in what will pay off in the long run?"
- 6. Every day is a GIFT from God.
- 7. The key is to move through life with PURPOSE AND BALANCE.
- 8. Management of SELF, not time, is the problem. It takes DISCIPLINE.
- 9. We have time to do exactly what God wants us to do. Need to decide if responsibilities are \$\frac{1}{2}\$ GOD-GIVEN or self-imposed.
- 10. Make a lifetime STUDY of how to better use your time. Ephesians 5:15-17, Col. 4:5