Coronavirus Social Distancing Daily Devotion #33

Make the Most of Your Time

**Ephesians 5:15-16 (NASB)** *15  “Therefore be careful how you walk, not as unwise men but as wise, 16  making the most of your time, because the days are evil.”*

There is not a day that goes by that I don’t think about my mom. As many of you know, she left this world on December 14, 2017. I’m still astounded that time has gone by so fast.

I was recently visiting my dad; he is getting older and doesn’t get out of bed that often. He was alert some, but mostly just awake long enough to acknowledge a comment or two. As I looked around his bedroom, I noticed that my mom’s dresser and little table she sat at to fix her hair were still like it was when she was here. It was as if I could hear her talking and smiling and walking around the room.

Those memories were very real and a joy to process. I’m so thankful for my mom and dad and all they have done for me over the years. But what jumped out at me the most was the quickness of time. Time is one of those subjects that is hard for me to wrap my hands around, so to speak. It is like trying to hold water in your hands, but not matter how hard you try, it slips away quickly. On the one hand, it is a blessing that time goes by quickly, because of the evils in this world. But on the other hand, it is a curse that time goes by so quickly - a curse that we must deal with in various ways. Not only do we have to learn to trust God with the challenges of a quick life, but we also need to be doing all we can to redeem the days. For those of us who are secure in our eternal destiny with Jesus, we are not afraid or alarmed that we will leave this world.

Paul was giving instruction to the church in Ephesus about God and how to live a life that is fruitful and pleasing to Him practically. Each chapter is filled with God and His desires for us. But as Paul begins his closure to the church, he reminds them of a very real issue: time. He says, without using these words, time is fleeting. It moves quickly and you only have so much of it. So, be wise; be careful with it. Use the time you have to the best of your ability so that when your time on earth is over, you will have much to rejoice over and much to give God as your gift to Him for letting you live on His earth.

As we see evil steadily growing and taking more control over the things of this life, we need to be aware that there are many people who need to hear about the love of Christ and His ability to save them. We must focus our attention on people and how we can be a service to them in the Lord’s Name. As Paul says to the church, it is foolish to waste our time on things that do not matter. Not that we shouldn’t enjoy what we have, and the days God gives us, but our priority should and must be on being an example of godliness and holiness to the world around us.

Every day, even in our social distancing, we can love our neighbor and be an example to them. Just yesterday I stopped in my neighborhood to talk to a man who lives alone. He was in his yard walking his dog. We were at a good, safe distance so I just asked him if he was doing ok and if could I do anything for him. He smiled and said something I’ll never forget. He said, “Just the fact that you took two minutes to stop and acknowledge me is the best thing you could have done for me.” I thought to myself all I did was said hello and showed a little care, but to him, it was monumental.

Do all you can to train yourself to think about others before you think about yourself. When you wake up in the morning, think about the clock. Not just because you have a lot to accomplish but because there are people who God has put in your life who need Jesus. Even as I write this, the clock never stops, and souls enter into eternity without Christ. Make the most of your opportunities, even if it’s just to ask to someone, “What can I do to help you?”