



# -TIME

Remember: \_\_\_\_\_ without \_\_\_\_\_ is drudgery.

If we are going to be like Jesus we must see the use of our time as a Spiritual Discipline. Jesus had His moments so perfectly \_\_\_\_\_ that at the end His life He was able to pray to the Father, "I have brought you glory on earth by completing the work You gave me to do." (John 17:4) Just like Jesus, God gives us both the gift of time and things to do during that time. The more we are like Jesus, the more serious and watchful we will be with our time. Let's look at some Biblical reasons to take this matter much more seriously.

Think about it. The world system we live in is not conducive to using time wisely, especially for the purpose of godliness. In fact our days are days of active evil. We shout quite loudly at how the devil comes to “steal,” yet I have rarely heard a preacher recognize his devices of time-theft. They may range in form from high-tech, socially-acceptable preoccupations to simple, idle talk or ungoverned thoughts. But the natural course of our minds, our bodies, our world, and our days leads us toward evil, not toward godliness.

– which for many of you are stronger now than they ever be – will tend to be unproductive at best, and many times evil.

Do we realize that whether you experience massive joy or eternal agony depends on what happens in just a few months of your life just like this one? What then, is more precious that time?

### 3. ... because time is \_\_\_\_\_!

The more scarce something is, the more valuable it is. Gold and diamonds would be worthless if you could pick them up like sand. Time would not be so precious if we never died. But since we are never more than a breath away from eternity, the way we use our time has eternal significance. The longest life is tiny compared to eternity. What's up with this comment about Jesus wiping away everybody's tears? Answer: There will indeed be many people weeping in heaven ... and you know that all the missed prayer times, missed opportunities, wasted days will be easily remembered.

### 4. ... because time lost cannot be \_\_\_\_\_.

John 9:4, Romans 14:12

We absolutely will be judged for what we did – and did NOT – do yesterday ... and the day before. Have you ever really experienced godly sorrow for all the waste of time in your life? Nothing short of godly sorrow will lead us to true repentance in this area.

### EVALUATION:

An overwhelming majority of disciples are nothing less than fools in the area of time-stewardship. Despite great giftings and callings, they are often fruitless because of lack of discipline. The discipline of stewardship is just that, a discipling – a training of yourself to order your time wisely. Just like people study, plan, and budget their money, we would be wise to do likewise with our time.

### EISENHOWER BOX:

Dwight Eisenhower lived one of the most productive lives you can imagine. Eisenhower was the 34th President of the United States, serving two terms from 1953 to 1961. During his time in office, he launched programs that directly led to the development of the Interstate Highway System in the United States, the launch of the internet (DARPA), the exploration of space (NASA), and the peaceful use of alternative energy sources (Atomic Energy Act). Before becoming president, Eisenhower was a five-star general in the United States Army, served as the Supreme Commander of the Allied Forces in Europe during World War II, and was responsible for planning and executing invasions of North Africa, France, and Germany. At other points along the way, he served as President of Columbia University, became the first Supreme Commander of NATO, and somehow found time to pursue hobbies like golfing and oil painting. Eisenhower had an incredible ability to sustain his productivity not just for weeks or months, but for decades. And for that reason, it is no surprise that his methods for time management, task management, and productivity have been studied by many people.

	Urgent	Not Urgent
Important	Do Now	Plan it
Not Important	Delegate it	Drop it

#### Questions:

1. Have you truly repented to God for the misuse of time?
2. Are you using your time the way God wants you to?
3. Do you make enough time each week to really Sabbath unto the Lord?
4. Do you have a written plan/system that helps you with your time?
5. Have you truly feared the Lord in this area of your life?
6. Are you the wise man of the fool in this area of time?
7. What are you going to do?