

Time

Ephesians 5:15-16

¹⁵Therefore be careful how you walk, not as unwise men, but as wise, ¹⁶making the most of your time, because the days are evil.

<5:16> ἐξαγοραζόμενοι τὸν καιρὸν, ὅτι αἱ ἡμέραι πονηραὶ εἰσιν.

Col. 4:5, Ps. 39:4, Ps. 90:12

Col 4:5 - Conduct yourselves with wisdom toward outsiders, making the most of the opportunity.

“redeeming the time” KJV

ἐξαγοραζόμενοι means _____

καιρὸν means _____

Together, Paul is trying to get us to _____

Ps. 39:4 - “LORD, make me to know my end, And what is the extent of my days, Let me know how transient I am.

Ps. 90:12 - So teach us to number our days, That we may present to Thee a heart of wisdom.

We need to see our use (or wasting) of time in the same way as we see how we use our money – but even more critically!

How do you spend your time?

Use the “time sheet” on the back to record where your time went this last week (to the nearest half hour). Then answer the following questions:

How much time did you spend sleeping? _____ Eating? _____

Studying Bible? _____ Praying? _____ Ministering? _____

Attending church? _____ Parenting? _____ Spousing? _____

Getting ready? _____ Driving? _____ Cooking? _____

Cleaning? _____ Working? _____ Watching TV? _____

Reading? _____ Exercising? _____ Hobbying? _____

Facebooking? _____ Shopping? _____ Other internetting? _____

Other - _____

Is your time being spent where it gets the most return?

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Other - _____

Is your time being spent where it gets the most return?

	Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
12AM							
1							
2							
3							
4							
5							
6							
7							
8							
9							
10							
11							
12PM							
1							
2							
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6							
7							
8							
9							
10							
11							
12							

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12AM							
1							
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12PM							
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12							

Teaching Notes:

Intro story:

Our favorite restaurant before we moved to Atlanta: Alioli's – average cost was \$22-\$27, but wonderful food, atmosphere, live guitarist, even wrote a song about us!

That money was a good investment!

Compare with what we spend to go out today. Do we still get the same for our money?

We put a lot of thought and effort into making sure we get the most out of our money. I'm not sure that's the most important return on investment we should be concerned about.

One of the most frequent things that I hear people say when they are asked to do something – and by far the most common thing I say – is “I don't have time.”

Most of my life I have strived to earn money. But a year or two ago I heard something that totally shook me, and definitely rang true: “Time is the ultimate currency.”

Maybe that's why I get so frustrated when I see someone in a modest house sitting on their porch just watching the world go by. I have to admit that there are people who have far less money than I do, but they are far wealthier.

This lesson is an attempt to help us realize that we may be very poor stewards of the most scarce resource we have been given by God. And to cause us to reevaluate what we are doing with it.

Bible Study:

Redeeming means: to buy, ransom, rescue from loss

It's the same word used to describe Jesus' redeeming us in Gal. 4:5

Time means: time, season, opportunity

Practical Application:

I'm not sure what to recommend as a practical application.

Putting a quarter into a jar every day. Taking one out.

Reducing the amount of TV you watch – or Facebook.

Maybe viewing your hours as investments into the bank that will pay eternal dividends – or not.