

Valuing Family
Part 6-Redeeming Time
Romans 13: 11-14, Ephesians 5: 15-17

We all have 1,440

How do we redeem time?

- **Spend more time with _____.**

- **Spend more time with _____.**

- **Spend more time with _____.**

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Message Application

The other afternoon I sat down in my recliner to watch a program on the television. I had been looking forward to watching this program, but as I sat there watching I fell asleep. It was a deep sleep. I don't know how long I was out, but a loud explosion woke me up. I was so startled that I jumped from my recliner with a shout of fear. When I was completely awake I discovered that the explosion was from a movie on the TV. I had slept through the program I intended to watch and now there was an unknown film that had a very explosive soundtrack that caused me to be disoriented. The time set aside for what I wanted to watch was gone.

I was glad I was by myself. I'm sure that if anyone had seen what happened they would have busted up laughing as I jumped up staggering around not knowing what to think. As comical as my loss of time was, there are many situations that we face each day that are much more serious.

Time is such a priceless commodity! This asset is shared equally by billionaires and paupers alike. And once it is lost, it is impossible to regain.

How many of us have put off overcoming or facing personal problems, wasted time in frivolous pursuits, neglected our relationship with God, or taken lightly our calling as His people, relegating it to less than top priority?

In today's message we identified three areas where we can start redeeming time. Our time with God, our time with family and our time with others (outside of our church family).

We are not called to simply manage the time we have...we're called to take the time we've been given and to REDEEM IT...to convert it into value. WHY? "Because the days are evil." And...if we aren't careful of how we redeem our time...it is easy to be led astray. Ask yourself several questions this week.

1. On a scale from one to 10; how would I rate my time with God? Grade this in light of both quality and quantity. Is God waiting for you to stop and spend time with him?
2. What letter grade from A+ to F- would you give your family time? Do good words like interaction, conversation, sincerity, closeness describe that time? Do poor words like noninteraction, unconnected, solitary dominate your description?
REMEMBER THIS MEANS YOUR PHYSICAL FAMILY AND CHURCH!
3. Name the last person outside of your faith that you set out to B.L.E.S.S. How long ago was it that you were **B**eing in prayer for them? When did you **L**isten to their story? How long has it been since you have **E**aten with them or done something with them? Have you **S**erved them in some way? Have you lovingly told them Jesus' **S**tory?

Paul warns us in our Scripture that the "days are evil." The Devil has come to kill and destroy and he will not squander his time! He understands his time is running out! Do you dear friend? Make the most of your time!

Grace & Peace,

Wm Lyons