

# Managers of His Gifts: Time



## The gift of time

What are some of the things God has blessed you with? Make a list of important blessings. List several reasons why time is such a precious gift.

## Mismanagement of time

Examine the following example of poorly using this gift. What are some of the biggest excuses for abuse or poor use of time?

- ◇ *Proverbs 3:27-28* Do not withhold good from those who deserve it, when it is in your power to act. Do not say to your neighbor, "Come back later; I'll give it tomorrow"—when you now have it with you.
- ◇ *Proverbs 6:9-11* How long will you lie there, you sluggard? When will you get up from your sleep? A little sleep, a little slumber, a little folding of the hands to rest— and poverty will come on you like a bandit and scarcity like an armed man.

Self-study: (use percentage of waking hours)

I spend . . .

% \_\_\_\_\_ my free hours a day for myself

% \_\_\_\_\_ hours doing things which I have to do (like work, chores, etc)

% \_\_\_\_\_ of my free hours a day for serving others

% \_\_\_\_\_ of my free hours a day listening to or praying to God

Rate the above in order of importance. What happens if you don't ever budget the use of your time?

Make a list of the top five ways most people today selfishly squander their time. Consider how people can often waste their time on their online addictions to sports, facebook, video games.

## What is time for?

Read Ecclesiastes 3:1-13. What does God do with time? What does he want us to gain from our use of time?

What other uses of time are found below:

- ◇ *Proverbs 13:4 The sluggard craves and gets nothing, but the desires of the diligent are fully satisfied.*
- ◇ *John 9:4 As long as it is day, we must do the work of him who sent me. Night is coming, when no one can work.*
- ◇ *2 Corinthians 6:1-2 We urge you not to receive God's grace in vain. <sup>2</sup> For he says, "In the time of my favor I heard you, and in the day of salvation I helped you." I tell you, now is the time of God's favor, now is the day of salvation.*

## The Christian's view of time:

What does Psalm 90 teach us about our view of time? Psalm 1 about our use of time?

What does the 3rd Commandment teach us about our time budgeting?

Do you wish time to stop or advance? Consider "time" as viewed by the saints in heaven: (Rev 6:9-11)

How does this world typically view the aged? How ought we to view the aged? ( Pr 16:31 )

Gal 4:4-5 "When the time had fully come..." God stepped into time. And time itself was forever changed. Explain.

John 3:16 "...eternal life." Matthew 28:20 "...I am with you always." How do these promises change our attitude toward the gift of time?

Consider the last day and read Psalm 130. Does time heal all wounds?

## The Christian's use of time:

Explain and apply to our use of time:

"Patience is being generous with your time."



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