

Eagle Summit Ministry 10817 E. 16th Avenue Spokane Valley, WA 99206

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HAVE A BLESSED AND MEANINGFUL 2024

A **NEW YEAR** provides us with new opportunities to serve God and others fulfilling the great commandment. Ben Franklin said, "Time is the stuff life is made of. Therefore, do not squander it." Psalm 90:12 "Teach us to number our days aright, that we may gain a heart of wisdom." Proverbs 27:1 "Do not boast about tomorrow, for you do not know what a day may bring forth." God is not limited to space and time. He does not wear a Seiko, a Timex, a Citizen or even a Rolex. God established time so that everything does not happen at once. God's timing is always perfect. He is never too early or too late. God never says, "Oops, I didn't see that coming," or "Sorry, I was too busy." Time is a loan. Do I squander it or invest it in eternity? Time is not like money. Time must be spent. Wasted time is lost forever. You can't save time; you can only spend it. Use it or lose it. We have a daily deposit of 24 hours, 86,400 seconds. **USE YOUR GOD-GIVEN TIME WISELY.**

Where We've Been, What We've Been Up to & Where We're Headed Next . . .

January – February (most Sundays) — I Country Bible Church, Dusty, WA (Morris) Country Bible Church, Dusty, WA (Gunnar Pabst)

November 5—Country Bible Church, Dusty, WA (Hippe)

December 31—Juliaetta Community Church, Juliaetta, ID (Hippe)

January — Country Bible Church, Dusty, WA (Hippe)

January — Country Bible Church, Dusty, WA (Pabst)

WE ARE AVAILABLE FOR PULPIT SUPPLY EVEN ON SHORT NOTICE.

Do you need assistance with Pulpit Supply, Creative Outreach Programs, AWANA or Kid's Clubs, Sunday School, Family Camp, Teen or Kid's camps or other special events? Contact us. We are here to serve.

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HOW MANY CLOCKS DO YOU HAVE IN YOUR HOME?

I counted 14 clocks, not including watches, computers, clocks in each vehicle and my cell phone. Our culture is time sensitive, maybe even time obsessed. Time is the ultimate limited resource. Everyone has exactly the same "time budget," 8,760 hours every year, 24 hours per day,



WHAT IS TIME? Ben Franklin "Time is the stuff life is made of. Therefore, do not squander it." Life is the time God has given us to decide where we will spend eternity. Scientists know there was a beginning of time. A beginning naturally assumes an ending, but to define "time" is as difficult as defining "life." In a silent 1920's movie, Charlie Chaplain is caught in the gears of a clock, symbolic of our dependence on time. What are we really saying when we say, "I didn't have time to do that?" We mean it is not that important. It is not a priority.

No matter the culture, time is the same 24/day. There are some cultural difference. We have six time zones in in the U.S. while there is only one in China. How people think about time can be culturally different. Some cultures are not concerned about hours and minutes. Terms like "soon" and "when we get there" are common. One missionary was trying to locate a fellow missionary and contacted a local tribal leader. When the leader was asked if he knew the missionary the leader replied, "You mean the man who wears his god on his wrist?" There is still a bill stalled before congress to cancel the twice a year time change. The Senate passed the bill two years ago, but the House can't agree. Is that a surprise?

Hours, minutes, seconds not in scripture, but there was still a struggle with waiting. Our values deter mine how we spend or invest our time, our talent, our treasure. Ephesians 5:15-17 "Look carefully then how you walk, not as unwise but as wise, making the best use of the time, because the days are evil. Therefore do not be foolish but understand what the will of the Lord is."

- 1. We should be living carefully every day. Others are watching and listening to us.
- 2. We should live each day (86,000 seconds/day) with purpose. Are we investing or wasting our time?
- 3. We should understanding how important it is to know and do God's will.

James 4:14-15 whereas you do not know what will happen tomorrow. For what is your life? It is even a vapor ("Mist") that appears for a little time and then vanishes away. Instead, you ought to say, "If the Lord wills, we shall live and do this or that."

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PRIORITIES TO HELP MAKE WISE USE OF TIME

- 1. See each day as a gift from God. Instead of seeing each day just filled with duties, see your day as another opportunity God has given you to serve Him and others. ". . . You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind. This is the great, and first commandment. And a second is like it: You shall love your neighbor as yourself." Matthew 22:37-39
- Time isn't inexhaustible, nor can you assume you will always have more; someday your time on earth will end. The psalmist said, "My times are in your hands." Psalm 31:15 The first thing you should do when you wake up is **THANK GOD FOR THE GIFT** of another day to try to serve Him and others.
- 2. Commit your time to God. God gave you time for a reason, not to be wasted or mishandled, but to be used to draw attention to Him. You are accountable to Him for the way you use our time; once a minute passes it can never be reclaimed. "Teach us to number our days aright, that we may gain a heart of wisdom." Psalm 90:12 "Walk in wisdom toward those who are outside, redeeming the time." Colossians 4:5
- How can we do this? Ask God to help schedule time more wisely. Rethink how you spend your time, and then adjust it to align with God's priorities. Examine why you're so busy (or so bored). Is what you're doing necessary, or are you simply trying to impress others? You can't do everything. You need to say "NO," if what you're doing isn't God's will. One of life's most important questions is, "God, what do you want?"
- 3. Set aside time for God and others. No dedicated Christian would say, "I'm too busy for God." But how often have you gone through a day neglecting to even think about Him, forgetting to spend even a few minutes praying or reading the Bible? Set time aside for God. Pray. Prayer prompts you to give your day, your activity to God. Prayer is a reminder that He will walk by your side through your day. Life passes too quickly. How sad it is to waste time waiting in lines, being put on hold, or waiting for traffic lights to change. Use waiting moments as a trigger to pray for friends, family, your pastor, a missionary, or someone else God brings to mind.
- Read your Bible. Read thoughtfully, looking for a challenge or words of encouragement. Reflect on the character of God. God's Word will influence you in a meaningful way. It's not the amount of time spent in the Word, but is the Word in your minds and heart? Is the truth of God's word flowing out of your life?
- Why do you forget to include God in your day? Too often you relegate God to your spare time and end up never having any. You may list everything you have to do and put God at the bottom of the list if at all. The opposite should be the case. Jesus said, "Seek FIRST his kingdom and his righteousness." Live each day, prioritizing and trusting God with your time.
- OTHERS. How often have you ignored someone who needed your encouragement or help? Jesus was never in a hurry. He had time for everyone. Having no time for others sometimes carries over to the neglect of your own family. Studies indicate that husbands and wives spend 4 minutes a day in meaningful conversation. Our culture insists I "have to get it done." Wisdom makes every second count in quality, purposeful living. If you're too busy to build a relationship, you're too busy. Enjoy your family. Deliberately plan a time when you can make the world, your job, the daily hassles STOP. Be together. Talk together. Laugh and play together. Enjoy each other. No time to build relationships even with our neighbors? We often don't leave ourselves time for the important things of life. Tell others of Jesus and His love. Be a friend. God will open doors of outreach through your relationships. Which is more important to you, PEOPLE or PROJECTS?
- 4. Take time for your own needs. God designed us to need rest and recreation. You might feel guilty if you take a vacation or even a few hours off, but you shouldn't. Regardless of the business, Jesus told His disciples, "Come with me by yourselves to a quiet place and get some rest" Mark 6:31. If Jesus required times of rest, don't you also? Someone who is constantly exhausted from lack of sleep, improper diet or lack of exercise is much more susceptible to Satan's attacks.



MAKE TIME FOR WHAT IS MOST IMPORTANT AND USE THE TIME OF YOUR LIFE WISELY.

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Thoughts from Dawna . . . The Lie of a Lifetime

My husband Dan and I were sitting down with our neighbor Michael the other night to enjoy his company and conversation. If you knew Michael, you'd understand that he has this special way of talking that'll get your attention. It's the tone and timber of his voice and the slight head bob as he's speaking. While he moves his hands with emphasis you can practically see his past experiences in his facial expressions. Just like in that old E.F. Hutton commercial, "When Michael talks, people listen." So, Michael had our attention when he started recounting the history of his 70ish years, specifically related to the ability to discern between lies and truth. There had been





times throughout his life that he believed in what he thought was the *truth*, only to now look back on a lifetime of events and see things very differently now. For him, it was the letdown of now realizing when he was being lied to, whether that was by the media, politicians, or in the things that helped shape his world view. Then, as Michael's tone became more emphatic, he said, "It's time to stop carrying the buckets of lies."

Do you understand the power of lies? Do you understand the power that you give to lies by even listening to them? **Proverbs 29:11-12** "Fools give vent to their rage, but the wise bring calm in the end. If a ruler listens to lies, all his officials become wicked."

If you tell and promote lies, you are actively destroying the people you influence including your spouse, your children, the people you work with, represent, or lead. Even more, if you're listening to lies, the destructive power is the same. That means, you have an enormous responsibility to seek the truth and disassociate with liars.

Seeking the truth takes practice, it doesn't just happen. It's an active statement. Just like with everything in life, there's no neutral or pause button for the things that form your character, mind, and heart. You must aggressively seek the truth because there's an enemy that spends every waking moment making it outrageously easy to be misled and comfortably believe the lie.

TRUTH is still truth, even if no one believes it.

A lie is still a lie, even if everyone believes it

THANK YOU SO MUCH FOR YOUR PRAYERS GOD IS USING YOU TO HOLD OUR ARMS UP IN MINISTRY

- Country Bible Church in Dusty, WA as they seek a new shepherd for their flock
- Wisdom and health for our son, George II
- For direction with personal physical challenges. I have had surgery and am recovering slowly. My body is adjusting to a new normal after this nine month adventure. I am doing well and grateful for modern medical technology.
- Pastor Kevin Che'n and his wife Janell, as they face Kevin's dialysis treatments and kidney transplant.
- Continue to pray with us for strength, energy and effectiveness in ministry.
- Praise for God once again meeting our financial needs through your faithful giving.
- Praise for improving health