

## Day 13 - Generosity with Time

Our days seem to fly by. Add in work, family, and the seemingly endless tasks that must be accomplished, and it is easy to find yourself at the end of your day wondering where the time went. All of us would jump at the offer of extra time, but would it actually help? All of us have been given the same amount of time each day. What we do with that time is a different story.

Are you generous with your time or stingy?

Our focus scripture for today is Ephesians 5:15-16

“<sup>15</sup> Pay careful attention, then, to how you walk—not as unwise people but as wise—<sup>16</sup> making the most of the time, because the days are evil.”

In this passage, Paul urges listeners to be careful about how they live life. Wise men and women make the most of the time they have because they understand that the days we walk through are not straightforward and easy. There are lows, loss, and pain mixed with beauty, passion, and promise. But none of us is promised tomorrow -or comfort.

Our days being numbered should present an urgency in the hearts of believers. There is no time to waste in this world. This could make us stingy with our time. But when we see life through the example of Jesus and scripture, it can embolden us to be boldly generous.

Pause to ask God to reveal the areas in your life where you are not generous with your time. Then, confess any selfishness and finally ask for a change of heart toward your use of time.

As an invitation to a spiritual practice—a way to say “yes, Lord,” identify time blocks in your life that you can give to others. Carve out 30 minutes of your day that you could freely give to someone who needs it with no strings attached. Do you have a coworker who needs a friend to listen? Does your family need your undivided attention - maybe take a walk, eat a meal without a device, or play a board game? Do you have a friend who needs help with work around their house or help navigating a difficult decision. The opportunities are vast to be generous with your time.

Prepare to walk with God into the day before us, the Lord who loves us says in:

Psalms 90:10 and 12 “<sup>10</sup> Our lives last seventy years or, if we are strong, eighty years. Even the best of them are struggle and sorrow; indeed, they pass quickly and we fly away... <sup>12</sup> Teach us to number our days carefully so that we may develop wisdom in our hearts.”

Father, help us discern where you are leading us as a church - making Your invitation clear.

Jesus, help us become worshipers, friends, apprentices, and guides who live as disciple-makers in all areas of our everyday.

Spirit, help us become a disciple-making hub, loving the lost and proclaiming Jesus in all we do and say so our communities will flourish.