

## ***SENSIBLE: TIME MANAGEMENT***

April 27 & 28, 2026 Jackie Southwick

- We don't all fit into the same mold when it comes to managing our time.
- WHY we should be good managers of our time is more important than our personal style of managing our time.
- If we are not using our time well, the problem may be that we need a Biblical perspective on our time.
  - Psalm 90:12 ~ Moses' prayer was that God would help us evaluate the use of our time in light of the brevity of life.
  - All of us have exactly the time we need on a daily basis and in our lifetimes to do all that God intends for us to do. But do we see time as priceless? Do we see how we spend our time as a statement of wisdom?
- **Time Stewardship**
  - Matthew 25:14-28
  - The Lord has entrusted each of us with this valuable thing we call time. How we invest and use our time is an indication of our faithfulness to Him.
  - Wasting time not only shows unfaithfulness to our Master, but also a missed opportunity to do something of value with what we have been entrusted.
- **Ephesians 5:15-17**
  - This passage tells us that we are to maximize our time in order to live to our full, God-honoring potential in Christ because that's how wise people live.
  - *"I am convinced that man plays the fool with time and opportunity more than he plays the fool in any other thing. That is the greatest category of foolishness, the misuse of time and opportunity."* · John MacArthur
  - V. 15 ~ **Walk in wisdom.** Wisdom is a practical, God-centered skill for living righteously. Everyone who has trusted Christ as their Savior has all they need to live wisely as we apply God's Word to our lives.
  - V. 15 ~ **Be careful how you walk.** We are to walk accurately, attentively and with exactness, weighing "good", "better" and "best".
  - V. 16 ~ **Redeeming the time** (making the most of your time). This means to use time wisely, valuing it for activities of greater spiritual significance. It involves being mindful of life's brevity, avoiding waste, and making choices that have eternal value.
    - What kinds of pursuits have eternal value and spiritual significance?
    - Titus 2:2-5 ~ Verse 5 tells us that doing these things honors God and His Word.
    - Proverbs 31
  - V. 16 ~ **"Time"** means "eras" or "epics" or "opportunities". We need to buy back (make the most of) the moments and opportunities that can be grasped for God, and for good, and for His glory.
  - V. 16 ~ **The days are evil.** Because we live in a world of sin, moral darkness and spiritual opposition, we need to be good stewards of the time we have. This is a spiritual battle.

- V. 17 ~ **Do not be foolish, but understand what the will of the Lord is.** Our goal is wisdom, not foolishness. This is God's will for us, in how we use our time as well as other things.
- V. 16 ~ **The days are evil.** This phrase also implies the time is short and therefore opportunities should be seized before they pass us by.
  - Proverbs 18:9 ~ Wasting time is actually destroying the opportunities before us.
  - Proverbs 20:4 ~ The lazy person loses opportunities that can never be redeemed.
- A sense of urgency should rule over us
- Understand that there will be adjustments to different seasons of life.

#### FIVE SUGGESTIONS TO LAUNCH YOU ON YOUR WAY:

1. **PRIVILEGE.** Remember...it is our privilege to glorify God with our lives, including how we steward our time.
2. **PRAY.** Ask God to show you where you are wasting time, missing opportunities or focusing on selfish desires. Pray Psalm 90:12 for yourself.
3. **PRIORITIZE.** Do your current priorities line up with what God says about the role of women? Maybe your husband would like some input here as well. Suggested list of priorities:
  - Loving God and following after Him with a whole heart.
  - Loving, helping, and serving my husband.
  - Loving, teaching, and disciplining my children.
  - Loving and caring for my home in order to provide a quality life for my family.
  - Developing myself so that I have something to give to others.
  - Loving and serving God's people.
4. **PRACTICE.** This is where the rubber meets the road. (Philippians 4:9) Your plan will be put into a tailspin at times. Don't get discouraged! Remember this is a spiritual battle. Ephesians 6:10-17 Put on the full armor of God.
5. **PRAY.** Keep praying and examining if you are meeting your priorities in being a good steward of your time. God wants you to succeed!

#### DISCUSSION QUESTIONS:

1. How is your personal time with the Lord? Do you do it? Or do lots of other things crowd that out? Are you letting those opportunities to be alone with God pass you by without redeeming the time? This is your daily food.
2. What about your spouse if you're married? Do you plan for precious time with him? Do you find ways to contribute to him the things he needs? Is he a part of the plans you make for the day or for the week?
3. How about your children? You know, not many years and then they're gone. How are you being a good steward of the time you have with your children? How are you looking for ways to invest time in teaching them about Jesus and His word? What will they remember about how you used your time while they were growing up?
4. What about ministry? What are you doing to use your spiritual gifts? How are you contributing to the needs of the saints?