



## TIME: SEIZING DIVINE MOMENTS

January 6, 2019

Pastor Randy Remington

### BIBLICAL TEXT(S)

*Be very careful, then, how you live—not as unwise but as wise, making the most of every opportunity, because the days are evil. Therefore do not be foolish, but understand what the Lord’s will is. (Ephesians 5:15-17)*

*Our days may come to seventy years, or eighty, if our strength endures;*

*yet the best of them are but trouble and sorrow, for they quickly pass, and we fly away.*

*If only we knew the power of your anger! Your wrath is as great as the fear that is your due.*

*Teach us to number our days, that we may gain a heart of wisdom. (Psalm 90:10-12)*

### MESSAGE SUMMARY

Part of what it means to live as a Spirit-filled person is to make the most of the time you have been given. Our lives are significant, but brief. And one’s life becomes significant once the point of your life is not about you, but about God (the Bible says that those who do not acknowledge God are fools). Ephesians 5:15-17 calls us to redeem the time we are given, and to make the most of every opportunity. In Greek, there are two words for time: *chronos* (measures the time; where we get “chronology”) and *kairos* (captures the moment; a significant moment in time). There is a correlation between understanding the value of time and wisdom. It is biblical to use the time we are given wisely:

There is a cumulative value to investing small amounts of time over a long period of time, even though the initial investment doesn’t appear to have a significant pay-off (i.e. going to the gym once v. going to the gym consistently for a year). What would it look like to consistently invest time to daily be with Jesus? Consistent investment (or neglect) has a positive (or negative) effect over a long period of time. Measure your minutes, because they add up.

*Kairos* is a divine appointment (a window of time). There is minutes in time and moments in time. Time may be measured in “*chronos*” (minutes) but life is measured in “*kairos*” (moments). We need to seize our moments in time (*Chronos*: live by priorities; *Kairos*: responding to the Holy Spirit’s promptings).

### DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

*These questions are designed to help you lead your group through a progression of engagement with the Bible passage and the speaker’s message, helping them understand and apply the teaching.*

#### LEAN IN

***These are icebreaker/warm up questions, mostly just to get the group talking and start the flow of conversation. Choose one question and talk it over for 5-10 minutes.***

1. What are the goals you have for 2019?
2. In what ways would you like yourself to be different by December 2019?

#### LOOK DOWN

***These are questions on the passage and observations about what’s been read.***

***Spend about 15-20 minutes on three questions max***

1. What is the reason for “making the most of every opportunity” in Ephesians 5:15-16?
2. What are some examples of “the days are evil” in your life (your neighborhood, place of work, social group, etc.)?
3. What can be some ways you make the most of the time you have in order to make a positive difference in these areas?
4. Look at Psalm 90:10-12. How does this Psalm describe our lives?

**DISCUSSION  
QUESTIONS,  
CONT.****LOOK OUT**

*These questions help connect the world of the Bible to today.*

*Spend about 15-20 minutes on three questions max*

1. When we think about how our culture lives, do we live as if our lives are short, or long?
2. What are some examples of cultural behaviors that show that we view our lives as being long?
3. What would be the characteristics of a life aware of the finite number of days?

**LOOK IN**

*These are questions that help you consider personal application.*

*Spend about 15-20 minutes on three questions max*

1. When you think about looking back at 2019, how would you want to have invested your time (chronos) more wisely?
2. What often prevents you from being more aware of where God is at work in every moment (kairos)?

**LIVE IT OUT**

*These action steps help apply this week's message to day to day life.*

*Choose one question and talk it over for 5-10 minutes.*

1. What can you do now to start consistently investing the time you have in what matters most?
2. What are the things you need to limit or cut out completely in order to make space for this wise investment of time?