

**NOW IS THE  
HOUR!**

***"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)**

1. OUR TIME ON THIS EARTH  
IS LIMITED

*"Show me, O Lord, my life's  
end and the number of my  
days; let me know how  
fleeting is my life."*

**(Psalm 39:4)**

***“The length of our days is 70 years - or 80, if we have the strength . . . they quickly pass, and we fly away.”***

**(Psalm 90:10)**

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

## **2. MAKE THE MOST OF EVERY OPPORTUNITY**

***“... making the most of every opportunity, because the days are evil.”  
Ephesians chap. 5 vs. 16***

- John 8:44 You belong to your father, the devil, and you want to carry out your father's desires. He was a murderer from the beginning, not holding to the truth, for there is no truth in him. When he lies, he speaks his native language, for **he is a liar** and the father of lies.
- John 10:9 I am the gate; whoever enters through me will be saved. They will come in and go out, and find pasture.<sup>10</sup> **The thief comes only to steal and kill and destroy**; I have come that they may have life, and have it to the full.

***“Lord, don't you care that my sister has left me to do the work by myself? Tell her to help me!”***      **(Luke 10:40)**



***“Martha, Martha,” Jesus answered, “You are worried and upset about many things, but only one thing is needed. Mary has chosen what is better, and it will not be taken away from her.”***

**(Luke 10:41-42)**

**Richard Swenson wrote,**  
***“People are overloaded!”***

- 1. Overloaded with commitments**
- 2. Overloaded with possessions**
- 3. Overloaded with work**
- 4. Overloaded with information**

### **3. UNDERSTAND WHAT THE LORD'S WILL IS**

*Ephesians chap. 5 vs. 17*

*“... do not be foolish, but understand what the Lord's will is.”*

# Establish Your Priorities:

*“Who or what is most important in my life?”*

*Schedule time to pray and read the Bible every day.*

*Spend time with your family.*

*Honor Christ with your work.*

- Col 3:22 Slaves, obey your earthly masters in everything; and do it, not only when their eye is on you and to curry their favor, but with sincerity of heart and reverence for the Lord.
- Col 3:23 Whatever you do, work at it with all your heart, as working for the Lord, not for human masters,
- Col 3:24 since you know that you will receive an inheritance from the Lord as a reward. It is the Lord Christ you are serving.

# Two Great Enemies:

*Regrets for things we did  
in the past*

*Anxiety over what will happen  
to us in the future*

- **2Pe 1:3 His divine power has given us everything we need for a godly life through our knowledge of him who called us by his own glory and goodness.** 4 Through these he has given us his very great and precious promises, so that through them you may participate in the divine nature, having escaped the corruption in the world caused by evil desires.5 For this very reason, make every effort to add to your faith goodness; and to goodness, knowledge;6 and to knowledge, self-control; and to self-control, perseverance; and to perseverance, godliness;7 and to godliness, mutual affection; and to mutual affection, love.8 For if you possess these qualities in increasing measure, they will keep you from being ineffective and unproductive in your knowledge of our Lord Jesus Christ.9 But whoever does not have them is nearsighted and blind, **forgetting that they have been cleansed from their past sins.** 10 Therefore, my brothers and sisters, make every effort to confirm your calling and election. For if you do these things, you will never stumble,11 and you will receive a rich welcome into the eternal kingdom of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ.

- John 16:33 "I have told you these things, so that in me you may have peace. In this world you will have trouble. But take heart! I have overcome the world."
- Matt.6:34 Therefore do not worry about tomorrow, for tomorrow will worry about itself. Each day has enough trouble of its own.



- **Enough happiness to keep you sweet,**
- **Enough trials to keep you strong**
- **Enough sorrow to keep you human,**
- **Enough hope to keep you happy**
- **Enough failure to keep you humble,**
- **Enough success to keep you eager,**
- **Enough friends to give you comfort,**
- **Enough wealth to meet your needs**
- **Enough enthusiasm to make you look forward to tomorrow, and**
- **Enough determination to make each day better than the one before!**

***“The hour has come for you to wake up from your slumber, because our salvation is nearer now than when we first believed. The night is nearly over; the day is almost here. So let us put aside the deeds of darkness and put on the armor of light.” (Romans 13:11-12)***