

Living Wisely on God's Clock

Ephesians 5:14-17

## Revival in the Family

- A. Revival to bring to life, spiritually. To reinvigorate from a state of spiritual slumber or apathy, self-will or self-absorption.
- B. In the family to embrace revival in my particular "season of life," i.e., single, married, widowed, divorced.

1. Life on earth is given to us by a holy and loving Creator God. Do you see 'opportunity' or 'accountability' (or both) revealed in vv 14-16?

Eph. 5:14-16 ... Therefore it says, "Awake, O sleeper, and arise from the dead, and Christ will shine on you." 15 Look carefully then how you walk, not as unwise but as wise, 16 making the best use of the time, because the days are evil. (ESV)



Ps 139:16 Your eyes saw my unformed substance; in your book were written, every one of them, the days that were formed for me, when as yet there was none of them. (ESV)

- 2. This passage likens time to a "season" with implied rewards at its conclusion: like in sports, theater, employment (?), and graduations.
- A. Accountability. V15.
- B. Time is finite. Beginning, end, and In-between.
  - God has the clock. Ps 139:14-16.
  - In-between time stewardship. Gen 3 to Rev 20. (Alcorn). Rapture??
- C. Protect it by living in the light of God. V16.
  - Rescue it don't let it waste; redeem it.
  - Days are evil. V16.
  - Evil where God is not. Eph 5:8-9, Isaiah 5:20
  - Evil is the thief. Take God out, and evil has the clock.



but only one receives the prize? So run that you may obtain it."



3. Would you say that Jesus *made the best* use of his time while on earth?

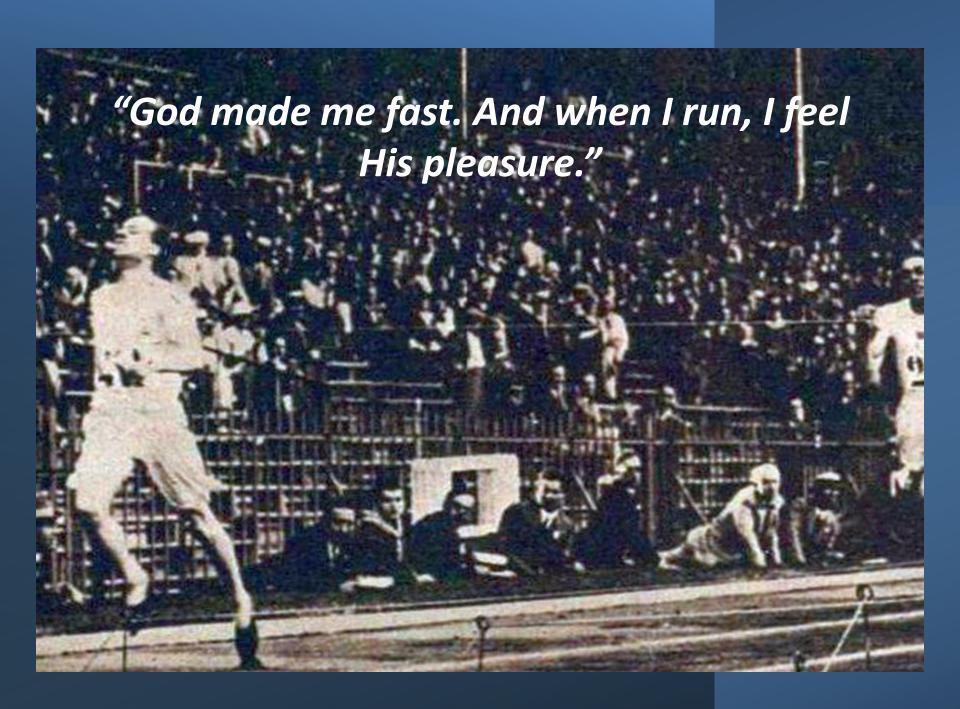
- Jn. 17:1-5 ..., "Father, the hour has come; *glorify Your Son*, that the *Son may glorify You*, .... <sup>4</sup> "I *glorified You on the earth*, having *accomplished the work* which You have given Me to do. <sup>5</sup> "Now, Father, *glorify Me together with Yourself*, with the glory which I had with You *before the world was*. (NAU)
- Eph 5:1 Therefore, be *imitators* of God as beloved children.



4. Does walking with wisdom mean that we are to do more or to work smarter (spiritually)? How do you read v 17?

Eph. 5:17 Therefore, do not be foolish, but *understand* what the will of God is. (ESV)

Do more? Ex 20:8-11



## Call to Action:

- A. Begin your day by thinking about what you expect to happen that day. How can you bring Jesus into the events of your day—through your spoken words, behaviors, and prayers? Ask God to "pick up your feet" and "put them down" in His will and plan how you will embrace the day with Jesus.
- B. Speak the words of Christ in the divine appointments God brings to you throughout your week. Trust the Holy Spirit to guide you in what to say. Make the most of the moment by trusting the Holy Spirit to provide you with the words to bring the light upon Jesus. John 17:8, John 16:13

- The "Jesus model" for the use of our time wisely.
- A. Jesus viewed his life as having a *divine purpose*. John 12:27. As did Paul Eph 2:10
- B. Jesus faithfully walked in obedience to the will of God. John 17:4. As did Paul Eph 5:15
- C. Jesus's life and death *brought glory to God*. In so doing, He shone the light upon the very nature of God for all humanity. John 17:5. Eph 5:8-9, 5:14