



SERIES: MY LIFE WITH GOD

Basic Life Skills: Making Time for God

Life Reference: Ephesians 5:14-16

Focus Verse:

**“But if from thence thou shalt seek the LORD thy God, thou shalt find him, if thou seek him with all thy heart and with all thy soul”
(Deuteronomy 4:29).**

“My life is so busy. I just can’t seem to find the time to pray and read the Bible as I should.”

—The lament of many Christians

Empowerment to do what is right and living a successful life comes by spending time with God. Without Him success is not possible, but with Him all things are possible.

In a world that is moving too fast, in a culture that places unreasonable demands on our time, how can we make time for God?

God is the maker of time and has gifted mankind with time. God has given each of us with the same amount of time each day, and we are stewards of this time. God expects our best, and that includes the time we give Him. We have an allotted amount of time on earth. Time is to be used to fulfill God’s will on earth and prepare for eternity with Christ in heaven.



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Making time for God begins with acknowledging the Creator and His absolute lordship of our lives and our time. When God is in His rightful place in our schedule, time for other worthy efforts will fall into place.

Life Reflection:

Think about your usual daily schedule. What things in your life take the greatest amount of your time?

What are your greatest "time-stealers"?

Do you feel that your time is in balance with the most important things receiving the greatest proportion of time in your schedule? Or do you operate in crisis mode—with the most urgent being taken care of first?

In reflection, do you feel in control of your time or does it control you?

We have frequently heard, "A stitch in time saves nine." There is truth in this saying. It takes more time and effort to repair a broken marriage than to maintain a healthy one? It also takes more effort to redeem a wayward teen than it does to prevent the severance in the first place. More time and effort are expended to restore a broken relationship with God than to maintain a good relationship with Him.

Charles E. Hummel observed, "We realize our dilemma goes deeper than shortage of time; it is basically a problem of priorities. We confess, We have left undone those things that ought to have done; and we have done those things which we ought not to have done." Or, as a cotton mill manager once told him, "Your greatest danger is letting the urgent things crowd out the important."

When we think about finding time in our busy day for God, there are some things that we must realize:

- *Making* time is different than *finding* time. We will seldom find time to spend with God. We must make time—set an appointed time in our daily



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schedule to meet Him.

- We make time for the things in life about which we are passionate. We always find time for the things that we really want to do. We try to find time for the things that we “have to do.”
- If time with God is difficult for us, it is not really a time problem as much as a love problem. We long to spend time with those we deeply love.

“Evening, and morning, and at noon, will I pray, and cry aloud: and he shall hear my voice” (Psalm 55:17).

The world lives in darkness, as if asleep. Time is meaningless, wasted, spent frivolously, without God. There is no thought of eternity. We ourselves once walked in darkness, but now we are the children of light. We must not imitate the world in our lifestyle. Therefore, we must wake up and redeem the time, walking in wisdom and constantly alert and on guard at all times.

“See then that you walk circumspectly, not as fools but as wise, redeeming the time, because the days are evil. Therefore do not be unwise, but understand what the will of the Lord is.” (Ephesians 4:15-17).

Life Response:

When we make God our first priority in life, we will find a difference in other areas of our lives as well. Our time will be more productive and we will accomplish more in less time. With God in His rightful place in our lives, we will find that our stress level is less. We will feel peace and joy, even when our daily schedule seems daunting.

Matthew 6:33	“But seek ye first the kingdom of God, and his righteousness; and all these things shall be added unto you.”
Matthew 11:28-30	“Come unto me, all ye that labour and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest. Take my yoke upon you, and learn of me; for I am meek and lowly in heart: and ye shall find rest unto your souls. For my yoke is easy, and my burden is light.”





Philippians 3:7-8

"But what things were gain to me, those I counted loss for Christ. Yea doubtless, and I count all things but loss for the excellency of the knowledge of Christ Jesus my Lord: for whom I have suffered the loss of all things, and do count them but dung, that I may win Christ."

Life Reflection:

How and when do you take time for God?

What things do you consciously do each day to make sure that you do not neglect your spiritual life? If you don't take daily time, what is hindering you?

We have time to make time for God. Our present joy and our eternal destiny depend on it.

My Prayer:

Dear Lord, help me to make the priority choices I need to make to keep my life balanced. Help me to take time each day to read Your Word, spend time in prayer, and most of all time to listen. Amen.

More Life with God References:

Psalm 63
Hosea 10:12
Acts 17:27
Acts 24:24-27

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