

Faith & Time Management

Introduction

Have you ever answered the question “how are you doing?” with the word “busy?” Every one of us has answered that question with the word “busy.” Busy seems to be a right-of-passage or a badge-of-honor. If we aren’t busy, then surely, we must be wasting our time. But can you ever be too busy? Can you ever have more plates spinning than you should? Can you ever have too many balls in the air?

There are a lot of self-help books out there about time management and how to prioritize your life, but what does the Bible have to say about how we use our time?

In the book of Acts, the Christian church is growing, and as it’s growing there are things falling through the cracks. Has that ever happened to you? The busier you are, you notice things falling through the cracks or being put on the backburner?

In this case, the Hellenistic Jews were Jews who had adopted some Greek culture or traditions. The Hebraic Jews were more traditional Jews and ALL these individuals were now people who were following the Way – they were Christians. Nonetheless, there is a complaint that arises among them that the widows of both these groups are being treated differently. The Apostles need to figure out what their roles are, and they need to enlist the help of others; people who are “full of the Spirit and wisdom” and have a good reputation; people who are seeking God’s Kingdom first. In short, the Apostles need to manage their time and share the ministry load. As we consider how these Apostles went about managing their time, we’ll consider how Jesus calls us to prioritize faith above all else.

Read Your Bible

- Acts 6:1-7
- Matthew 6:25-34

Apply God’s Word to Your Life:

1. What are some things that stand out to you in this account in Acts?
2. What was the initial reason for the conflict that arose?
3. What would be the role of those who were being chosen and what do we know about these men? What would the Apostles spend their time doing, moving forward?
4. What do you think some of the benefits were from involving more people in the ministry of the early church?
5. What were the concerns people carried with them during Jesus’ time? How can you relate to this incredibly relatable text?
6. Looking at the gospel reading, what does Jesus call out as the antidote for the worry and anxieties in our lives?
7. How is God calling you to put His Word into practice today?

Reflecting on the text:

1. What have you learned about God?
2. What have you learned about the world?
3. What have you learned about yourself?

Pray

Lord Jesus, we can so easily get caught up in both the things of this world and the things of You. We can carry all these things as if they are our burdens to carry. Would You help us to trust You and look to You first; to seek first Your kingdom and Your righteousness, trusting in You and in Your provision for each day and each situation? Give us the right view of temporary things and the right view of the eternal – and the ability to discern how You are calling each of us to love and serve You, heart, soul, mind, and strength, today. In Jesus' name, Amen.