

Gratitude and Stewardship

Pr. Israel - Nov, 09th

How so we steward what God has given us? If in gratitude we thank God for what He has given us, how do we steward those things?

Speaking of what God has given us, time is our most special resource we have. How do we steward it?

Key Verse

Ephesians 5:15-16 (NLT)

"Be very careful, then, how you live – not as unwise but as wise, making the most of every opportunity, because the days are evil"

A: Time is your most valuable asset.

You can make more money, but you can't make more time. So treat it like the treasure it is.

Time is not your own, it's a gift from God. (Eph 5:15-16)

B: Time is a gift, not a right.

You don't know how many days you have left. So stop waiting for someday and start living today.

C: Wise time stewardship requires intentional choices.

You can't just drift. You have to decide what matters and protect it.

Kairos – quality time (the which that matter)
Cronos – passage of time

Psalm 90:12

"Teach us to realize the brevity of life, so that we may grow in wisdom"

Ecclesiastes 3:1-2

"For everything there is a season, a time for every activity under heaven. A time to be born and a time to die. A time to plant and a time to harvest"

Time has a rhythm and a purpose.

James 4:13-15

"Look here, you who say, 'Today or tomorrow we are going to a certain town and will stay there a year. We

will do business there and make a profit.' How do you know what your life will be like tomorrow? Your life is like the morning fog—it's here a little while, then it's gone. What you ought to say is, 'If the Lord wants us to, we will live and do this or that.'"

D: Rest is part of time stewardship.

You're not a machine. You need to rest, recognize, and remember that God is holding everything together.

Exodus 20:8-10

"Remember to observe the Sabbath day by keeping it holy. You have six days each week for your ordinary work, but the seventh day is Sabbath rest day dedicated to the Lord our God. On that day, you must not do any work."

Mark 6:31

"Then Jesus said, 'Let's go off by ourselves to a quiet place and rest awhile.' He said this because there were so many people coming and going that Jesus and his apostles didn't even have time to eat."

Hebrews 4:9-10

"So there is a special rest still waiting for the people of God. For all who have entered into God's rest have rested from their labors, just as God did after creating the world."

Start Talking: Spark Conversation

- 1) If today you had more hours in your day to do anything you want, what would that be?

Start Thinking: Deepen the Thought

- 2) Why do you think sometimes we can get adrift in the works in our day and not do intentional choices of our time?
- 3) What do you think it means "do not work" in our day of rest (Shabat)? How would that day look like?

Start Sharing: Open Heart / Share Stories

- 4) What was one thing you did that helped you

better manage your time?

- 5) Was it a time you had to set off limits for the sake of your rest during your week? How did you managed it and how that reflected on the rest of your week?

Start Doing: Commit to Act

- 6) What is one thing I commit myself to put as a priority during this week or to say no for the sake of my priorities?
- 7) Is there anything that is in the way of me becoming a better steward of my time?

Praying.

Heavenly Father,
Thank you for enlighten us about how to be great stewards of our time. Forgive us for so many times using our time in a way that is not alligned with the truth that our time is yours to do it what it pleases you. Help us to better set our priorities and make the most with our time knowing it is limited. We surrender it to you. Help us listen to your voice of guidance and to put aside everything that holds us back from putting into practice this message. In the Name of Jesus we pray, Amen.

Announcements:

- Thanksgiving Gala Dinner – November 27th – 80 reais

<https://contribua.pibcuritiba.org.br/thanksgiving>