



Dedicating My Time To God

F1RST — Part 4

July 1, 2018 – Tim Gill

Two things have a huge impact on my time:

- My circumstances and my attitude.

So be careful how you live. Live as men who are wise and not foolish. ¹⁶ Make the best use of your time. These are sinful days.

Ephesians 5:15-16 (NLV)

Teach us to use wisely all the time we have. **Psalms 90:12 (CEV)**

What can I do to make the best use of the time I have?

1. I approach each day as a gift from God.

My times are in your hands... **Psalms 31:15a (NIV)**

This is the day that the Lord has made. Let us be full of joy and be glad in it. **Psalms 118:24 (NLV)**

2. I commit my time to God.

So here's what I want you to do, God helping you: Take your everyday, ordinary life—your sleeping, eating, going-to-work, and walking-around life—and place it before God as an offering. Embracing what God does for you is the best thing you can do for him. **Romans 12:1 (MSG)**

We make our own plans, but the Lord decides where we will go. **Proverbs 16:9 (CEV)**

And now I have a word for you who brashly announce, "Today—at the latest, tomorrow—we're off to such and such a city for the year. We're going to start a business and make a lot of money." You don't know the first thing about tomorrow. You're nothing but a wisp of fog, catching a brief bit of sun before disappearing. Instead, make it a habit to say, "If the Master wills it and we're still alive, we'll do this or that." **James 4:13-15 (MSG)**

3. I set aside time for God and for others.

Jesus replied: "Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind." ³⁸ This is the first and greatest commandment. ³⁹ And the second is like it: 'Love your neighbor as yourself.' ⁴⁰ All the Law and the Prophets hang on these two commandments." **Matthew 22:37-40 (NIV)**

Do not waste your time arguing over godless ideas and old wives' tales. Spend your time and energy in training yourself for spiritual fitness. **1 Timothy 4:7 (NLT)**

4. I ask God to help me make and meet opportunities.

Be wise in the way you act toward outsiders; make the most of every opportunity. **Colossians 4:5 (NIV)**

Instead, make your top priority God's kingdom and his way of life... **Matthew 6:33a (NTE)**

We make our own plans, but the Lord decides where we will go. **Proverbs 16:9 (CEV)**

5. I take time to relax and recharge.

There is a time for everything...³ a time to heal...⁷ a time to mend... **Ecclesiastes 3:1, 3, 7 (NIV)**

Then Jesus suggested, “Let’s get away from the crowds for a while and rest.” For so many people were coming and going that they scarcely had time to eat. **Mark 6:31 (TLB)**

➤ ***If God were first... how would it change how I use my time?***
