



STUDY GUIDE

January 30, 2022

Message Series:

The Big 4

Message Title:

Wise With Time

Teaching Pastor:

Brian Hughes

Warm-up/Icebreaker:

Where is the worst place you have been stuck for a long time?

Pray:

Dear Lord, You are all powerful and yet, You are eager to spend time with us. As we draw near to You, help us to sense Your presence and outstretched arm. We often try to handle things on our own, but we turn to You now to seek wisdom. We devote this study to You as we learn what it means to steward our most precious resource, our time. In Jesus' name we pray. Amen.

Get Started:

- Was the study Pastor Brian mentioned surprising to you in any way (where children spent <40 minutes and adults <15 minutes in their yard despite their perceptions)? Do you have an outdoor area or options for activities outdoors? How much time do you spend there?

"We know what should be, and deep inside we know what is, and most people just have such a hard time facing reality that we prefer to live with the bliss of the lie than correct it. So we will **say**: "the priority of my life is God, my marriage, my kids, then work and my back yard!" But if we work 80 hours a week, haven't had a date with our spouse in a year or spent more than 10 minutes a day with our kid in the past 3 months, or haven't really been dedicated to time with God consistently and all the while spend faithful time every night on social media or in front of a screen, then we ought to examine: what's the REAL priority of our life?" -Pastor Brian Hughes

Read John 4:34-35 and Romans 13:11.

- What did Jesus remind his disciples regarding the use of time? What does Jesus regard as important in the present time? How should these verses affect how we live?

Watch and Discuss Video: (running time 13:22 min.)

"We have to learn to say no. To carefully vet how we're going to schedule and spend our time. We have to be careful not just with new requests, but also to stuff that already exists. If it doesn't meet your priorities, in alignment with your life purpose and mission, you need to make a change... Sometimes, it takes a while, but it might be time for a major reallocation of time so that your time can be redeemed time and not wasted time." -Pastor Brian Hughes

Read Ephesians 5:15-17 and Ecclesiastes 3:1-8.

Stephen Covey's 4 Quadrants

	Urgent	Not Urgent				
Important	<p style="text-align: center;">Quad I</p> <table border="0" style="width: 100%;"> <tr> <td style="width: 50%; vertical-align: top;"> <p><u>Activities</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Crisis • Pressing Problems • Deadline Driven </td> <td style="width: 50%; vertical-align: top;"> <p><u>Results</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Stress • Burn-out • Crisis management • Always putting out fires </td> </tr> </table>	<p><u>Activities</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Crisis • Pressing Problems • Deadline Driven 	<p><u>Results</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Stress • Burn-out • Crisis management • Always putting out fires 	<p style="text-align: center;">Quad II</p> <table border="0" style="width: 100%;"> <tr> <td style="width: 50%; vertical-align: top;"> <p><u>Activities</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Prevention, capability improvement • Relationship building • Recognizing new opportunities • Planning, recreation </td> <td style="width: 50%; vertical-align: top;"> <p><u>Results</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Vision, perspective • Balance • Discipline • Control • Few crisis </td> </tr> </table>	<p><u>Activities</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Prevention, capability improvement • Relationship building • Recognizing new opportunities • Planning, recreation 	<p><u>Results</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Vision, perspective • Balance • Discipline • Control • Few crisis
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Wise: Mission ⇒ Priorities ⇒ Time Allocation

- Write down your mission statement for your life. Share it out loud. Even if you haven't finished formalizing, share one thought.
- Take a few minutes to silently consider your mission statement, the teaching from Pastor Brian, the verses just read, and the chart above. List at least 2-4 activities in each of the quadrants. Consider the following: Are you living these principles out in your own life currently? Where do you struggle? Where do you succeed? Would you say you spend the majority of time living proactively or reactively?
- How can you live more proactively (Quadrant 2)? What part of the verse or teaching that we just reviewed will you purpose to remember? What mechanism(s) can you put in place this week to be more intentional about living this way?

Reflect and Commit:

"Some years ago, Dr. Edward Hallowell wrote a book that I've read more than once called *Married to Distraction* and in it he coined a term he calls the Law of the Modern Life. He says, 'Here is a hard and fast Law of Modern Life: *If you do not take your time, it will be taken from you.*'" -Pastor Brian Hughes

Read James 4:13-17.

- What kind of people is James referring to in 4:13-16? Does this apply to us?
- What does James want us to consider, as we set about our daily lives, in 4:14-15?
- We often think of sin in terms of the things we do or thoughts we have that we know are wrong. What kinds of sinful acts is James referring to in 4:17?
- Share primary ways we can seek God's will. How can we encourage each other?

Read Psalm 90:12.

Pray:

Dear Lord, You are a mighty God and worthy of our time. We approach You with confidence knowing that You care for our deepest needs. One of those needs is that we understand Your will for our lives. We ask that You reveal Your mission and priorities; teach us to number our days that we might gain a heart of wisdom. May all that we do honor You. We pray all of this in the name of Jesus. Amen.