



June 5, 2016
Celebration | 9:00 am
Pastor David Mitchell

How to Make the Most of Your Life Ephesians 5:15-21

Seek God's wisdom to understand and obey the will of the Lord. Ephesians 5:15-16

- Avoid evil distractions that can lead to foolishness.
"Therefore be careful how you walk, not as unwise men but as wise, making the most of your time, because the days are evil. So then do not be foolish, but understand what the will of the Lord is."

Careful =

Luke 24:12

1 John 5:19-20

(See the LifeGroup Discussion on the back for more practical help)

Trust in God's power by the filling of the Holy Spirit. Ephesians 5:18

- Avoid intoxicating distractions which diminish the Spirit's control.
"And do not get drunk with wine, for that is dissipation, but be filled with the Spirit..."

Filled =

John 12:3

Proverbs 31:4-9

Offer thankful words in the name of Jesus Christ to one another and our Lord for all things.

Ephesians 5:19-20

"...speaking to one another in psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, singing and making melody with your heart to the Lord; always giving thanks for all things in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ to God, even the Father."

- Express godly words to one another:
 - Psalms (Psalm 115; 116)
 - Hymns (1 Timothy 3:16; Ephesians 5:14)
 - Spiritual songs (Exodus 15; Luke 1:46-55)
- Lift up praise from your heart to the Lord.

LifeGroup Discussion:

Which of the following have you used to discern the will of God? How have you benefited? What examples can you share of how the Lord has guided you in life?

Read the six “C’s” to know and obey the will of God so you make the most of your time. Each one comes with a word of caution.

- 1. Contemplate on His Word** - Psalm 1:1-3; Joshua 1:8; Romans 12:1, 2; James 4:17; II Timothy 3:16-17
Caution: Pride and wrong knowledge of the Bible distorts truth. 1 Corinthians 8:1-2
Make sure your interpretation of the Bible is accurate. 2 Timothy 2:15
- 2. Counsel of godly people** - Proverbs 11:14; 13:20; 15:22
Caution: Seek godly people full of goodness and biblical knowledge. Romans 15:14
Be aware of people that deceive you. Acts 20:29-30; I Timothy 4:1
- 3. Circumstances of life** - Nehemiah 2:11-16; Luke 12:24-28; I Corinthians 16:8-9
Caution: Misreading “open doors” because circumstances are difficult. I Corinthians 16:8-9; 2 Corinthians 2:12-13
- 4. Common sense** - Romans 12:3; I Timothy 3:2; Titus 2:2
Consider what is **“best.”** I Thessalonians 3:1-2
Consider what is **“necessary.”** Philippians 2:25-26
Consider what is **“fitting.”** I Corinthians 16:3-4
Caution: God’s will does not always make sense - Peter walking on water. Matthew 14:28-29
- 5. Conscience** - Romans 14:5, 14, 21-23; I Timothy 1:5; Hebrews 9:14
“But the goal of our instruction is love from a pure heart and a good conscience and a sincere faith.” Timothy 1:5
Caution: Your conscience may be **“weak”** from lack of knowledge. 1 Corinthians 8:7
Your conscience may be calloused from sin and deception. 1 Timothy 4:2
- 6. Contentment** - Colossians 3:15; 2 Corinthians 2:12-13
“Let the peace of Christ rule in your hearts, to which indeed you were called in one body; and be thankful.”
Colossians 3:15
“Now when I came to Troas for the gospel of Christ and when a door was opened for me in the Lord, I had no rest for my spirit, not finding Titus my brother; but taking my leave of them, I went on to Macedonia.” 2 Corinthians 2:12-13
Caution: Jonah. He was content as he slept on a boat in disobedience to God’s will.

Next Steps

1. Take the Make the Most of Every Opportunity card from the Lobby and place it in a prominent location in your life to help you remember. Maybe even get a frame for it and keep it in your home to remind you to use your time wisely.
2. Set time aside this week to practice speaking good words to someone, singing with your heart to the Lord, giving thanks and submitting. Spend time in prayer asking for the Holy Spirit to fill your life with power.