

The Chapel Family Bible Reading Program – Sept 19-24

Doing Life Together ... It's about Time

MONDAY: Romans 12:9; Luke 10:27; 1 John 2:15-17

KEY VERSE: Matthew 22:37-38

OBSERVATION: Jesus did not identify the greatest commandment as serving God, worshiping God, making disciples, or any other endeavor we might do for God. Rather, we are to love Him. To be sure, loving God will be reflected in serving, worshiping, and making disciples but God is most concerned about our relationship with Him not religious activity. Does your personal schedule reflect the nurturing of that relationship? Or, are you distracted by everything else on your schedule?

TUESDAY: John 8:32; 1 Corinthians 15:10; Titus 3:14

KEY VERSE: 2 Peter 1:8-9

OBSERVATION: If we want spiritually productive schedules then we must live according to the strength Christ provides which we find through His Word, by grabbing hold of His grace, as we walk in His light and devote ourselves to doing what is good. It's about far more than checking things off our "To Do" list. Spiritually productive schedules move leaders beyond mere activity and accomplishment to bearing spiritual fruit. In John 15 Jesus makes it clear that we must abide in Him to bear fruit. Apart from Him, we can do nothing of eternal value. Consequently, that which keeps us from abiding in Him, is going to hinder spiritual productivity. How many times do you plug in and unplug from the vine in a given day?

WEDNESDAY: Philippians 3:7-15; John 15:1-8; Philippians 4:12-13

KEY VERSE:

OBSERVATION: Can you sustain your schedule without burning out? Can your church sustain its schedule without burning out its faithful members? One of the greatest dangers with overtaxed schedules is not burnout but rather failure to nurture who we are in Christ. Do you want a sustainable schedule? Make the same choice Mary made to view spending intimate time with Jesus as an integral part of your schedule.

THURSDAY: Ephesians 5:15-21

KEY VERSE: Ephesians 5:17

OBSERVATION: God exhorts us to "Be very careful, then, how you live — not as unwise but as wise, making the most of every opportunity." How we use our time is critical. We need to understand how precious each moment is so we don't waste it. We have many opportunities to spend our time foolishly, sinfully. God wants us, instead, to make the most of every opportunity. Notice the reason for exercising such discernment and wisdom. — "the days are evil" Until we gain a realistic perspective on life, we will not grasp the significance of using our time to its best advantage or benefit. Are we living in a way that sets us apart from the evil all around us?

FRIDAY: Matthew 6; Acts 6:1-7; Psalm 39:4-5;

KEY VERSE: 1 Timothy 6:17

OBSERVATION: Let me suggest four reasons why people are too busy, but are going nowhere in terms of eternal investments, or in accomplishing God's will. (1) People may stay busy because of their egos. People want to appear important. (2) People may stay busy as a cover up for laziness. (3) People may stay busy because of greed. (4) People may stay busy because they are more concerned about pleasing men rather than God. Do you spend too much time in any of these areas?

SATURDAY: Colossians 4:5; Galatians 3:13;

KEY VERSE: Ephesians 4:16

OBSERVATION: The good news is that Christ gives us ample resources to rescue these opportunities from slavery. Through Him we see these opportunities, and through Him we act on them. The evil days don't stand a chance with Him working through us. If the day is declared "bad" how can we make it "good"?