

WORSHIP

SUGGESTED WORSHIP SONGS:

God So Loved; Yet Not I But Through Christ in Me; O Praise the Name (ANASTASIS)

WELCOME

Share a quote, proverb, or Bible verse about TIME. Do you believe it's true? Why?

WORD

MARK 3:14

And He appointed twelve, so that they could be with Him and He could send them out.

HEBREWS 10:24-25

and let us consider how to stimulate one another to love and good deeds, ²⁵not forsaking our own assembling together, as is the habit of some, but encouraging one another; and all the more as you see the day drawing near.

When we talk about influence, the time element cannot be taken out of the equation. The observation that **“the more time you spend with someone, the greater the influence”** is truly undeniable. This is true whether we talk about family relationships with your children, parents, or other relatives; and even in spiritual family setups like discipler to disciples. In **Mark 3:14**, we get a picture of how Jesus understood this concept and chose twelve people to focus on—to be with Him in order for them to learn to do what He does. The effectiveness of His approach led to us being part of God's great family. The disciples purposely pursued Christ's mission and learned His ways, passing it on so that today we see the faith's survival across generations. Our perpetually busy lives should not be an excuse for us to not use TIME properly, with due consideration and diligence to its role in creating lasting impact. **Hebrews 12:24-25** also gives us further instructions: the principle is not forsaking **“assembling together”**, meaning **spending time together**.

Most children and even adults spell the word **LOVE as T-I-M-E**. If time is so important, why is it that we don't spend time with our loved ones with more intentionality? Perhaps because there are **4 MYTHS** about time that we need to correct:

1. QUALITY TIME VS. QUANTITY TIME

Many people feel that *quality* time is enough even if they don't give their children *quantity* time. The TRUTH is **QUALITY TIME IS ALSO QUANTITY TIME**. Quantity time may not always be quality time; but if you want quality time, it has to involve quantity time. Why do you think most teenagers avoid spending time with their parents as they grow older? This is because when they were younger, they did not experience much quality time with their parents. Children will not enjoy spending time with their parents if every time they're together, they are lectured and corrected! That is why many teenagers don't even want to spend time

eating with their parents. They try to avoid them. Quality time and quantity time are both very important!

2. THINGS VS. TIME

Many parents think that because they are so busy, they can substitute time with material things. They give gifts to their loved ones in lieu of time. The truth is this: **no amount of things can compensate for time**. Many parents have admitted that the reason why they don't really spend time with their children is because they find it easier to give their children gadgets. Gadgets are used to entertain their children to keep them quiet; thus, avoiding spending time with them. Remember this: **things cannot take the place of time**. What's the alternative? Apply the **REPLACEMENT principle**: when you take away something (e.g. gadgets), it is because you have something better to offer your children. The best offer is yourself—your time. Learn to play games with them, spend time with them. The same thing goes in discipleship as well!

3. TOMORROW TIME VS. TODAY TIME

In **Proverbs 27:1**, we are reminded that tomorrow may never come. We do not hold an assurance of “tomorrow time”. There is no guarantee. While the bad news is that time flies, the good news is you are the pilot and you decide how time will fly.

4. NO TIME

The truth is that we are all busy and do not have time for a lot of things. But remember, we will have time for what is truly important for us. Lilian Dickinson said, **“Life is like a coin, you can spend it any way you wish, but you only spend it once. The choice is yours”**.

There are 4M's in relation to TIME with our loved ones that we can maximize for greater influence in our relationships.

1. MAGIC MOMENTS – SEIZE IT

This is when children or disciples would want to open up to parents or disciplers. They invite you into their inner life. It is those times when they would like to talk and listen. **Magic moments cannot be created. It is spontaneous.** You need to learn to catch and seize it. Be available and willing. When it happens, grab the opportunity, especially in sharing God's truth and Word. Do not miss it!

2. MEMORABLE MOMENTS – CREATE IT

To make moments fun and memorable, you must learn to do things that they like, not what you like, and build happy memories. Memorable moments don't have to be expensive or complicated. It can be as simple as spending time wrestling or playing with them, having a fun meal together; but the intent is to create lasting FUN MEMORIES.

3. MAXIMIZING MOMENTS – DOUBLE IT

To maximize time with children or disciples, include them in your schedule. The secret of managing time well starts with you determining your priorities and focus. For parents, bring your children to work when you can, and use that to teach excellence at work. For disciples, it can be both studying God's Word together and teaching them Bible study techniques. The goal is to maximize time spent with them!

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS:

(Leaders: Please choose questions that are appropriate to the level of spiritual maturity of your members)

1. **Self-Check.** How do you spend your time everyday? What activities do you engage with your family and disciples?
2. **Setting It Right.** What will you start and stop doing so you can be a better handler of the sacred trust of TIME?
3. **Living It Out.** Even if we are busy, we can double up our time. How can you work or study effectively but at the same time lead people to Jesus? Share your ideas and inspire one another!

WORKS

PRAY CARE SHARE IN ACTION

Pray that as we intentionally spend our time with people that we will be able to care for them the way Jesus does. Share to people that we have a God who is not limited by time and who wants to spend eternity with us. Share that the best time to trust the Lord Jesus Christ for eternal life is now, not later.

4. MENTORING MOMENTS – INTENTIONAL INVESTMENT

“Time is something you cannot bank, you can only spend, so let's spend it wisely.” –Deonna Tan-chi

Time is a sacred trust – we must be intentional how we use it like with our loved ones like planting seeds. The growth or the benefit will not always be immediate, but it will produce lasting fruit as they observe you through the years. This is the bottom line of time—it is one of God's most precious gift to each one of us. We are given limited amount of time and that is why God wants us to use it wisely. **Ephesians 5:16-17** tells us to make the most of your time: **“Do not be foolish but understand what the will of the Lord is.”** In other words, wasting time is foolishness. When you waste your time, you waste your life. You miss out on God-given chances for you to influence others and make an impact that can transform lives. Think of GOD Himself who in the Bible promised to be with us. Think of Jesus' example and further assurance of His presence (**Hebrews 13:5**). **REMEMBER, MORE TIME MEANS MORE INFLUENCE. CHOOSE TO SPEND YOUR TIME WISELY STARTING TODAY!**

WEEKLY PRAYER POINTS

I. Thanksgiving

- Worship God for who He is, what He has done, and what He will do in our lives

II. Country and the World

- Upright and moral governance of Public Servants and a God-centered Philippines
- Repentance and Salvation

III. Church

- That CCF Members would honor and love God and make disciples
- Elders, Pastors, Leaders, and Families
- Ministries and Churches worldwide

IV. CCF Facilities

- Worship and Training Center
- Prayer Mountain

V. Personal Concerns

- Deeper intimate relationship with God
- Righteous living
- Salvation of family and friends