



to glorify God in this life and who are preparing themselves to glorify God in the life to come. It's a beautiful thing to see both older and younger men and women trying to serve God to the best of their abilities. It is encouraging to see older Christians learn something new and glorify God in the different challenges of life. It is always heart-

warming to see younger Christians grow into their own faith and service to their Lord. It is "smile-bringing" to see generations of Christians worshipping side-by-side in study, supplication, and song. Without a doubt, worshipping congregationally is something that is always "time well spent."

It is imperative that we understand that time is an element of this universe that was created for us. In Genesis 1:14-19, we read the account of God's creation on the fourth day. On the fourth day, He created the "lights in the firmament of heaven" in order for us to be able to tell the difference between night and day and summer and winter and year from year. God created time for us. And, just like everything else He has created for us, He expects and demands that we be good stewards of the time with which He has blessed us. So, let's use our time wisely. Let's "buy back" all of the time that we would waste on frivolous vanities and let's spend it on the things that will glorify the God who is greater than words can say. May God forever bless us in our endeavor to do so.



Faithful Sayings Issue 12.17 April 25, 2010

Welcome Visitors

We are so glad that you joined us today.
Please come again.

● Let us know if you have any questions.

ISSUE

12.17

BULLETIN OF
THE OLSEN
PARK CHURCH
OF CHRIST

Faithful Sayings

April 25
2010



Services

Sunday: 9:30 AM
10:20 AM
6:00 PM

Wednesday: 7:00 PM

Elders:

Charles Kelley
Pat Ledbetter
Jeff Nunn
Kyle Pope

Deacons:

Dean Bowers
Eddie Cook
Pat Goguen
Neil Ledbetter
Rusty Scott

Evangelists:

Kyle Pope
Curtis Carwile

"Time Well Spent"

by Curtis Carwile

On the first night of our meeting, Brother Truex said that he went over his allotted time by seven minutes and that he would try to "give them back" on the next lesson. After services that night, I heard someone speaking with Brother Truex and telling him that "You can have those seven minutes because it was time well spent." Unfortunately, this is something that a lot of people don't understand, that time is a commodity—it can be bought and spent. Granted, there isn't a store where you can buy time like you can groceries. However, time is bought and spent every day. It is a sad fact about the world in which we live that time is so often wasted on so many unimportant things. This is why Paul commands us to "redeem the time," to buy it back, in order to spend it on more important things (Colossians 4:5). All of our time needs to be "time well spent." So, let's discuss some things we should do that would be "time well spent."

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I. Reading the Bible.

In 1 Timothy 4:13, Paul commands and encourages Timothy to **“give attention to reading.”** I don’t think that it’s too much of a surprise that I would suggest something like this. I mean, someone who does something for a living obviously sees value in what they’re doing.



However, reading the Bible is not something that is only beneficial to preachers, it is something that is beneficial to everyone who does it. At nothing more than a casual skimming of it, one can pick up the answers to the “BIG” questions of life. *“Where do I come from?”* God created the universe and everything in it, including me (Genesis 1-2; Isaiah 44:24). *“Is there a purpose to my life and, if so, what is it? Basically, why am I here?”* I was created to glorify God in everything that I do, say, and think (1 Corinthians 10:31; 1 Peter 4:11). *“Where am I going?”* Those whose names are written in the Book of Life will join God in Heaven after the Judgment and those whose names are not written there will be cast into the lake of everlasting fire (Revelation 20:11-15). Upon further study of the Bible (2 Timothy 2:15), one can discover his or her standing with God—lost in sin (Romans 3:23; Isaiah 59:2; Revelation 21:8). Also, one can discover how to obtain the gift of God, by believing in the Gospel’s power to save (Romans 1:16-17) and acting upon that belief by repenting from a sinful lifestyle to serve God and be baptized for the remission of sins (Acts 2:38). And, one can discover how he or she should act in this life with regards to his or her family (Ephesians 5:22-6:4), friends (Proverbs 17:17), employers and employees (Ephesians 6:5-9), strangers (Luke 10:25-37), and even enemies (Matthew 5:43-48). In all aspects of life, one can discover how to worship God individually and col-

lectively. And, the promise is given to us that if we **“meditate on these things”** our **“progress may be evident to all”** (1 Timothy 4:15). Reading, studying, and meditating upon God’s word is something that is always “time well spent” for everyone and something on which we should all spend our time.

II. Praying.

In 1 Thessalonians 5:17, Paul commands and encourages the brethren in Thessalonica to **“pray without ceasing.”** When someone looks at the life of Jesus, it is difficult to miss how often and intensely He prayed (Luke 6:12; John 11:41-42; Matthew 26:36-44). If praying was something that “God with us” (Immanuel, Matthew 1:23) thought was important enough to devote so much of His life to, should not we, as His followers, find it just as important? Aside from the command to pray and the wonderful example left to us by our Master, prayer is such an amazing tool with which God has blessed us. Prayer allows unrestricted access to God the Father with the assurance that He will hear and care for the Christian who prays in faith (Hebrews 4:16; Psalm 34:17; 1 John 5:14-15). Through this beautiful avenue, we can present our hearts’ troubles and desires to the Almighty God of Heaven

and earth knowing that He knows how to give good gifts and do what is best (Matthew 7:7-11). Praying is something that is so wonderful and something that is always “time well spent.”

III. Worshipping Congregationally.

In Hebrews 10:24-25, the writer commands and encourages all brethren not to forsake **“the assembling of ourselves together”** but to **“exhort one another... as you see the Day approaching.”** Congregational worship is something that is pretty awesome. Not only can we engage in the two things we’ve already discussed (Bible study and prayer), but we get to do those things with other Christians who are trying