

Week 9, Ephesians: Chapter 5 Pt 2 (Vs 15-33)

- The main aim of this final section of Eph 5 is to give clear _____ to husbands & wives.
- Interestingly however Paul does not _____ address husbands and wives specifically...
- He continues to address them _____ as part of the general _____ of believers...
- While doing so he gives us a clear picture of what **the daily mentality** of the believer should be.
- This mentality is critical for all believers, not just husbands and wives.
- However, this _____ is incredibly important for husbands and wives... especially if they desire to have regular success in their _____.

V15-16 Paul starts by reminding us all of how important our _____ is. Paul doesn't want anyone to take their time on earth for _____. Paul challenges the believers to make the most of their time and to use their time to the best of their ability for the glory of God.

1st key to a successful Christian mentality is a continual _____ of time, and how quickly time is passing and how fleeting life is.

Suggestions!

Live every day _____ of the previous days or coming days.
Keep a detailed _____ and regularly log your day/time.
_____ major unnecessary time wasters.

2nd key to a successful Christian mentality is a continual sense of _____ and ever present desire to do more and more for God in the time we have.

Suggestions!

Schedule the most _____ things in your life & do them first.
Only relax/do the fun/trivial thing _____ the most important things have been _____.
Try to have a sense of accomplishing at least one **spiritually significant** thing each day, half day, hour etc.

These are also the keys to a successful marriage. That is; an awareness of your time & your responsibilities & a valuing of your spouse's time, including an urgency to make the most of your time with your kids etc.

Suggestions!

Mark how many Saturdays you have left with your oldest child on a calendar. Scratch them off 1 by 1.
Schedule **one on one** time with each child weekly, and even in snippets daily.
Spend deliberate time with your spouse or kids **before** doing something personal/relaxing.

V17-18 Paul continues by reminding us all to not see life as _____ and mundane, but rather to see life as eternal, weighty and significant. Paul challenges the believers to understand and know what God wants and to be laser _____ on that.

Through the example of alcohol, Paul warns against any kind of behavior that would cause the believer to **lose focus** on God's will & their fleeting time. Paul encourages the believer to be _____ with the Spirit (to _____ the Spirit's leading) so that they can make the most of their time and do the will of God.

3rd key to a successful Christian mentality is to continually understand the _____ of life (sobriety) and to not get caught up in the folly of worldly living/concerns.

Suggestions!

Remember to number your days... figuratively and literally.

Strategically _____ how much worry-time-concern something warrants taking up in your life.
_____ the amount of time/concern spent on temporary/physical things vs. eternal/spiritual things.

4th key to a successful Christian mentality is to _____ focused on the will and desire of God. And to _____ clear of anything and everything that will cloud your vision or slow your progress.

Suggestions!

_____ the hobbies, games and habits in your life. Very few of them are really beneficial.
Have set times, seasons in your life/year where you will undergo a **personal evaluation**.
No matter how small, or limited, always have some form of **God's Word** entering your life daily!

These are also the keys to a successful marriage. That is; a seriousness towards the weightiness of marriage and parenting and a constant focus on the aim of having a godly marriage, godly children etc.

V19-21 Paul challenges the believers to rally together _____ through singing & prayer, in order to help each other _____ stay alert & focused.

5th key to a successful Christian mentality is to _____ yourself with other believers who want the same thing as you. _____ with Christians who are also zealous to make the most of their lives.

Suggestions!

_____ your closest friendships. We are at best, an average of our 5 closest friendships.
Spend most of your **relational time** with people who you want to be more like.
Schedule time with other believers. Make this time _____ not just trivial.

These are also the keys to a successful marriage. That is; that as a couple, we spend time with other couples in prayer & worship unto God... but also as a unit (husband/wife) together, we spend time praying & worshipping together.

V19-21 Paul challenges the believers to ever be thankful to God for all that he has done for us... and to collectively _____ to each other (_____ one other) out of love, unto Christ.

6th key to a successful Christian mentality is to *always be thankful to God for everything. And to acknowledge your part in the corporate body of Christ and to serve & submit to others within your role in that greater body.*

Suggestions!

_____ **thankfulness**. Thank God for something specific before every meal, every shower.
Look for ways to serve others and ways to allow others to be first.
_____ going to the back of the line, jumping in to serve & listening before you speak etc.

These are also the keys to a successful marriage. That is; that as a couple, we are thankful to God for what he has done for us & continues to do for us... and we acknowledge & submit to the individual roles that he has for us within our marriage & family.

V22-24 The **1st** thing Paul says about marriage is that wives should _____ their husband's God-given _____ in the marriage. The husband is to be the head of the marriage relationship.

The **2nd** thing Paul says about marriage is that wives should _____ to their husband's leadership role in the marriage.

V25, 28-30 The **3rd** thing Paul says about marriage is that husbands should _____ their wives to the same extent that Christ loved the church and was willing to die for her.

V26-27 The **4th** thing Paul says about marriage is that husbands should _____ their wives spiritually, and through the ministry of the Word, sanctify her and grow her spiritually.