

Time Management: Balancing the Demands of Ministry with Life
Xenos Summer Institute
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1st Principle: You are stewards of God's time.

- Your time is not your own.
- Ron Blue defines stewardship as the “use of God-given resources for the accomplishment of God-given goals.” (Ron Blue, *Master Your Money* (New York: Thomas Nelson) p. 23.)

Owner	Steward
How much of God's time will I give to God?	How much of God time will I keep for my pursuits?
When adding something: will I have the time & energy to do this? Will I enjoy it? Will it benefit me in the long run?	How will this activity affect my ability to advance God's purposes?
How I use my time is my business.	I am going to seek out input concerning the use of the time God has given me.

- Christ understood this principle.

Jn. 6:38 : “For I have come down from heaven, not to do My own will, but the will of Him who sent me.”

- Same claim on your life.

I Cor. 19&20:.. “Do you not know that your body is a temple of the Holy Spirit who is in you, whom you have from God, and that you are not your own? For you have been bought with a price; therefore glorify God in your body.”

2nd principle: God has good works for you to walk in.

- God has uniquely made you to accomplish specific works that will impact the world.

Eph. 2:10 is talking about. For we are His workmanship, created in Christ Jesus for good works, which God prepared beforehand, that we should walk in them.”

- You are God's workmanship.

- Not a blueprint but a life direction over time.

Further references: Jim Leffel, Ephesians 2:10, tape # 09284, Feb. 23, 2003; *The Call: Finding and Fulfilling the Central Purpose of Your Life* by Os Guinness

3rd principle: There will be time to accomplish the good works prepared for you.

- God put me on earth to accomplish certain things. Right now I am so far behind I think I'll never die."
- Examples of Christ and Paul

Christ:

Jn 6:38 - "For I have come down from heaven, not to do My own will, but the will of Him who sent me."

Jn. 17:4: "I glorified You on earth, having accomplished the work which You have given Me to do."

Paul:

Acts 20:24 – But I do not consider my life of any account as dear to myself, so that I may finish my course and the ministry which I received from the Lord Jesus, to testify solemnly of the gospel of the grace of God."

2 Tim. 4:7: I have fought the good fight, I have finished the course, I have kept the faith..

- Not done perfectly or did everything you wanted to do
- Often take an act of faith

4th point: Walking in good works will result in a life worth living.

- Do you believe it?
- Time is a limited commodity.

- Schedules will get crazy.

Why surprised?

What is the first to go?

Back to the Word.

How do I begin to balance my time?

- Begin with the end in mind.
- Schedule, schedule, schedule

The Time Management Matrix

The Seven Habits of Highly Effective People, Stephen Covey

Urgent	Not Urgent
Important: (Urgent)	Important
Not Important	Not Important

- Big rocks, little rocks.

- Someone will schedule your time if you don't! **Gordom MacDonald** *Ordering Your Private World*

- Why schedule?

The important things get done.

Helps you say no.

Frees you from worrying.

Allow for God ordained interruptions.

Nothing wrong with schedules but give God your schedule.