**Stewardship: Time**

**Redeeming the Time (Ephesians 5:15-16)**

**Recap:**

* **Ticker (Stewarding the Heart): Proverbs 4:23**
* **Treasures (True Riches: Trust, Generosity and Eternal Rewards):**

**1 Timothy 6:17-19**

* **Talents (“True Greatness Through Service): Mark 10:35-45**
  + **The Misunderstanding of Greatness (Mark 10:35-37)**
  + **The Cost of Following Jesus (Mark 10:38-40)**
  + **Greatness Redefined (Mark 10:41-45)**

**Intro:**

* **Ephesians 5:15-16**
* **Robin Williams Dead Poets Society: Carpe Diem (Latin) Seize the Day Boys Make Your Lives Extraordinary.**
* **C.S. Lewis Screwtape Letters Book Quote (Article)**
* **How do we Redeem Time? How do we become good stewards of our time?**

1. **The Value of Time**
   1. **Time is a gift.** 
      1. **Psalm 90:12: So teach us to number our days that we may get a heart of wisdom.**
   2. **It is limited and precious-we cannot reclaim lost time.**
   3. **Time is an opportunity-every moment carries potential for God’s Purpose.**
2. **How We Wast Tiem**
   1. **Procrastination**
      1. **Delaying what should be done today.**
      2. **James 4:13-14: Come now, you who say, “Today or tomorrow we will go into such and such a town and spend a year there and trade and make a profit”-yet you do not know what tomorrow will bring. What is your life? For you are a mist that appears for a little time and then vanishes.**
   2. **Distractions**
      1. **Worldly things pulling us away from what matters.**
      2. **Luke 10:38-42: Now as they went on their way, Jesus entered a village. And a woman named Martha welcomed him into her house. And she had a sister called Mary, who sat at the Lord’s feet and listened to his teaching. But Marth was distracted with much serving. And she went up to him and said, “Lord do you not care that my sister has left me to serve alone? Tell her then to help me.” But the Lord answered her, “Martha, Martha, you are anxious and troubled about many things, but one thing is necessary. Mary has chosen the good portion, which will not be taken away from her.”**
   3. **Sinful Pursuits-activities that pull away from God’s will.**
3. **Redeeming Time for God’s Glory.**
   1. **Prioritizing God Daily** 
      1. **Seeking first the kingdom**
      2. **Matthew: 6:33: But seek first the kingdom of God and his righteousness, and all these things will be added to you.**
   2. **Serving Others**
      1. **Using Time to Bless and Uplift**
      2. **Galatians 6:9-10: And let us not grow weary of doing good, for in due season we will reap, if we do not give up. So then, as we have opportunity, let us do good to everyone, and especially to those who are of the household of faith.**
   3. **Spreading the Gospel**
      1. **Making the Most of Every Opportunity**
      2. **Colossians 4:5-6: Walk in wisdom toward outsiders, making the best use of time. Let your speech always be gracious, seasoned with salt, so that you may know how you ought to answer each person.**
   4. **Living with Urgency**
      1. **Recognizing that we do not know how much time we have.**
      2. **James 4:14: yet you do not know what tomorrow will bring. What is your life? For you are a mist that appears for a little time and then vanishes.**
4. **Living With an Eternal Perspective**
   1. **The World is Temporary** 
      1. **2 Corinthians 4:18: as we look not to things that are seen but to the things that are unseen. For the things that are seen are transient, but the things that are unseen are eternal.**
   2. **Investing time in things that have eternal value-faith, love and sharing Christ.**
      1. **Matthew 28:19-20: Go therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, teaching them to observe all that I have commanded you. And behold, I am with you always, to the end of the age.**
   3. **God calls us to number our days wisely and prepare for eternity.**

**Conclusion:**

* **What areas do we waste time in and we can instead fulfill the purposes of God?**
* **We must make a commitment to honor God with every day He give you.**
* **Surrender your schedule and priorities to the Lord.**
* **C.S. Lewis Screwtape Letters (Article)**