

# TALK IT OVER

## TIME AND CHANCE

### DIG DEEPER

The book of Ecclesiastes is full of wisdom. It was written by the wisest man in the world, and it is the sum of everything that King Solomon saw during his long life. One of the things he wrote is that life's perks and rewards are not reserved for a certain exclusive group of people. He discovered that *"time and chance happen to them all."*

Every human being has been blessed by God with time and chance. The golden question is: What am I doing with the time God has given me? In **Psalm 90:12**, King David prays to God to teach him to count his days well, so that he does not waste them, but uses them to gain wisdom. It is evident that David understood that each day is important and unique; every day is a gift from God. A former president can charge up to \$ 750,000 for a one-hour speech, but surely the value of an hour at his first job as a youth, was worth much less.

### REFLECTION QUESTIONS

1. Do you think you are being a good steward of your time and opportunities?
2. What is your value for one hour of time today vs. last year?
3. What does God promise those who are diligent with their time? (**Matthew 25:20-21**)



*"I returned and saw under the sun that – The race is not to the swift, nor the battle to the strong, nor bread to the wise, nor riches to men of understanding, nor favor to men of skill; but time and chance happen to them all."* - Ecclesiastes 9:11 (NKJV)

### SIMPLICITY

In **Matthew 20:1-15**, Jesus shares the Parable of the Workers in the Vineyard. Those who started work at 6am complained of receiving the same pay as those who worked only one hour. At first glance, one could understand them. They received the same pay but worked in the hot sun for many more hours.

Jesus teaches us through this passage to stop being so focused, looking at other people's time and chances, instead of ours! This only leads to covetousness, jealousy, and envy. Time and occasion happen to everyone! Make sure that you are taking advantage of all the opportunities God sends you and, ask God to teach you to count your days, and make the most of all the ones you have left. Stop saying you don't have time for God. Prioritize, and enjoy the results. (**See Matthew 25:20-21**).

*Class # 31*

### UPCOMING EVENTS

MEN'S CONFERENCE (INFLUENTIAL)  
BAPTISM (Bill Baggs State Park)  
NEXT STEPS

August 20-21  
Sept. 3 (10am Pavilion A1)  
Sept. 5 (9am in person or via Zoom)