



What choices  
are you  
making to  
live a life that  
makes an  
eternal  
difference in  
the lives of  
others?

## Action Plan

Here is an action plan to regain the stewardship and control of your time. This week take a blank sheet of paper and literally track how you spend your time. You can do it in 30 minute increments, it does not have to be down to the minute. At the end of the week review what you wrote down. How do you spend your time?

Now take action – What 1-3 things do you need to stop doing right now that are not what you want to be remembered for (or simply time that you want to re-gain for something else). What could you do more efficiently to gain more time? Are the new things allowing you to say YES to more of the questions posed on the inside of this brochure?

## Faith & Work Integration

**A** new kind of professional is needed for today's workplace: one who is confident, courageous, spiritually mature and an effective spokesperson for God.

**Priority Associates** is a global movement of young and established professionals and emerging leaders who are working toward this goal and transforming the marketplace by reaching out and developing leaders from the inside out.

Our vision is for "changed lives and changed cities". We see a day when:

- Marketplace professionals are exposed to the relevance of God and the Bible to their everyday lives.
- Professional men & women are becoming vital Christians.
- Christian professionals are visibly applying their faith in the workplace.
- Christian professionals are making an impact in the corporate world and community.
- Cities and nations are transformed.

If you are interested in more information on integrating faith and work, becoming a next generation leader, or making an impact with your life, we would love to serve you. You can visit any of the following websites to get the resources and help you need:

- ~ [www.PriorityAssociates.org](http://www.PriorityAssociates.org) ~ information about who we are
- ~ [www.PriorityLeader.com](http://www.PriorityLeader.com) ~ information about how you can make a difference
- ~ [www.WorkplaceRevolutions.com](http://www.WorkplaceRevolutions.com) ~ for new college seniors & new graduates
- ~ [www.WorkplaceMinistryTraining.com](http://www.WorkplaceMinistryTraining.com) ~ training and equipping
- ~ [www.MissionStatementBuilder.com](http://www.MissionStatementBuilder.com) ~ building a personal mission statement
- ~ [www.iPriority.com](http://www.iPriority.com) ~ a tool to reach out to other professionals
- ~ [www.LifeHelp.org](http://www.LifeHelp.org) ~ a tool to reach out to a general adult audience

You may also contact us at [info@priorityassociates.org](mailto:info@priorityassociates.org) or you may be able to get help from the organization or individual who provided you this resource.

## PRIORITY ASSOCIATES

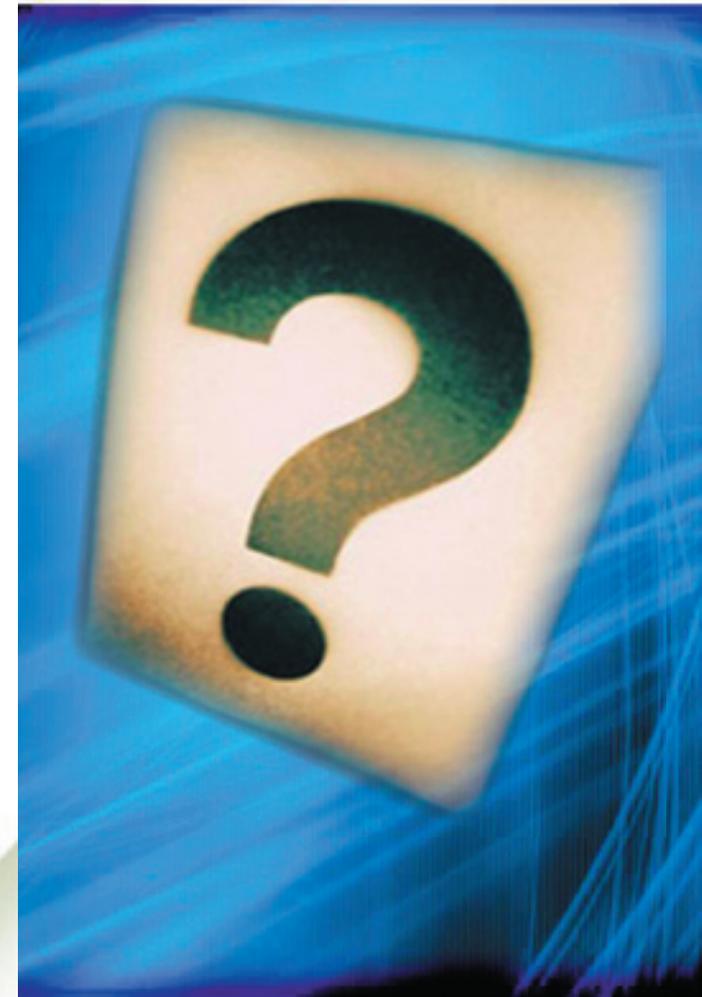
*A worldwide movement of young professionals, established professionals and next generation leaders*

[www.priorityassociates.org](http://www.priorityassociates.org)

*The marketplace ministry of Campus Crusade for Christ*

To order additional copies or request additional resources  
[www.lifehelp.org](http://www.lifehelp.org) ~ 1-800-503-2214 ~ [www.priorityassociates.org](http://www.priorityassociates.org)

# CHOICES and PRIORITIES





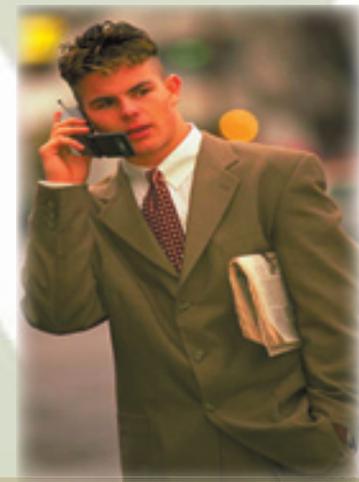
***"Be very careful, then, how you live, not as un-wise but as wise, making the most of every opportunity for the days are evil"***

**- Ephesians 5:15-16**

This passage should be one that every follower of Christ should know. At first glance, we are not sure of the clear meaning—"the days are evil"? But, here is another way to say it: "Un-managed time is lost for eternity, so to not manage (redeem) the time God has given you, to live for Him, is to waste it.

### **The Busyness of Life**

Everyone it seems is busy, overcommitted and overworked. People give a variety of reasons for this – being asked to work more and more hours, kids' schedules, taking care of everyday things, church commitments and more.



Yet in some, or in many cases, we choose to give away our time. We feel pressure to say YES to volunteer opportunities or to do good things. We also feel like it is important to be current on sports, trivia, New York Times best-sellers, arts, plays, skiing, TV programming, latest movies, music, technologies.... It is exhausting.

### **The Three Things that Last for Eternity**

As a follower of Christ, we know that the Bible teaches that three things go on into eternity—**1) God himself, 2) His word, and 3) people.** Everything else is left behind. If we truly believe this, it seems that this would guide our choice making if we really want to make an eternal impact with our lives.

Not that relaxing, watching a sitcom, catching a movie, or reading the sports page are not a good thing.... everyone needs some down time. But if you are one of those people that feels like they have no time in their life for anything else, maybe it is time to evaluate how you are spending your time and decide if there are some things that you want to **choose not to do** and some things that you want to **choose to start doing** to make an eternal difference.

With **God, His Word, and People** as the focus, we need to help people say "yes" to these questions below. Can you say "yes"? Could you train and equip someone else to say "yes"?

#### **God**

- Is your relationship with God fresh?
- Do you feel like God is using you to your maximum ability?
- Do you know how to walk daily in the power of God's spirit?
- Do you have a sense of calling and purpose?

#### **The Bible**

- Are you confident in knowing how to read and understand the Bible for yourself?
- Do you know how to apply biblical principles to life's daily issues?

#### **People**

- Do you have God's heart for people?
- Do you have a sense of community with others who are like-minded in their desire to make a kingdom difference?
- Do you have accountability to make the most of your life and to stay on the right track?
- Are you confident that you could clearly share how God is working in your life or how you came to faith in Christ?
- Are you confident that you could share your faith in such a way that someone else would know how to become a Christian if they wanted to?
- Could you disciple a new believer into spiritual maturity?
- If God really began to work in peoples' hearts and you suddenly had 5 people that you had to help grow to spiritual maturity, could you do it?



### **Your Life**

Have you ever considered that you are a dust bunny? That minus the water that makes up 90% of your body, you are about 2 pounds of dust. Yet the sovereign God of the universe has breathed His life into you and is allowing you to participate in His Kingdom Plan to change the world.

Considering that the average adult life-span is now around 75 years old, this means you have about 20,000 days to invest once you reach the age of 20.

| Approximate days left to invest if you live to 75 |                 |                |
|---|-----------------|----------------|
| ~ Age 25—18,000                                   | ~ Age 45—11,000 | ~ Age 65—4,000 |
| ~ Age 35—15,000                                   | ~ Age 55—7,000  |                |

### **Your Time**

Well, it all comes down to your time and your choice on whether you will invest it or spend it. Time is the great equalizer. Everyone is given the same amount each week—168 hours. How we choose to spend that time could make an eternal difference or it could be just wasted.

| Approximate time used during a 168 hours / week |                                    |
|---|------------------------------------|
| - 42 hours sleeping                             | - 5 hours shopping                 |
| - 42 hours working                              | - 5 hours cleaning house/yard      |
| - 15 hours eating                               | - 4 hours on the phone             |
| - 10 hours in the car                           | - 2 hours waiting for someone else |
| - 7 hours getting ready                         | - 2 hours in church                |

This leaves about 34 hours of time that could be invested. Not included on this list, however, are the weekly 15 hours of TV and 10 hours of other entertainment—movies, Internet, gaming, etc. that people spend. Now the usable hours are reduced to 9 hours a week. Accounting for other things that may come up that take 4-5 hours a week, there only remains 5 hours left to invest. No wonder people feel they are too busy and exhausted with life.

So what's a person to do? Well, you may need to take a break. You, may need to slow down and think. You may need to have a contemplative moment to consider what you want said about you after you are gone. Then decide to start living by some new priorities and use the exercise on the back to get some perspective on your time!