“Maxing Your Time For Jesus!”
Ephesians 5:15-16
Paul’s Admonition to the Ephesian Church

Key: “make the most of your time...” 5:16

“Be seated with Christ” – Eph. 2:6 (rest in His grace)
   How to be saved by grace!

“Walk in a manner worthy of your calling” (Eph. 4:1)
   How to live for the Lord!

“Stand firm against schemes of the devil” (Eph. 6:11)
   How to be strong in your Christian life!
1. Scrutinize Your Life and Times! Why? Your Life Is A Vapor... here...then vanishes!

Life on earth is uncertain!
“You are just a vapor that appears for a little while and then vanishes away” (James 4:13-14).

“We may never pass this way again!” Seals and Crofts (1973)

.... Well, you WON’T pass this way again; so make a difference!
Just Passing Through ...

Hebrews 11 - Abel, Enoch, Noah, Abraham, Isaac, Jacob, Moses

“All these people died in faith, without having received the things they were promised. However, they saw them and welcomed them from afar. **And they acknowledged that they were strangers and exiles on the earth**”

(Hebrews 11:13)
Scrutiny Brings Focus!

Paul’s great discussion with Philippi!
“For me, to live is Christ and to die is gain!”
(Philippians 1:21)

“But one thing I do: Forgetting what is behind and straining toward what is ahead, I press on toward the goal to win the prize of God’s heavenly calling in Christ Jesus....”
(Philippians 3:13b-14)

What is the great calling over your life? Paul? Prevailing point: (Philippians 3:10)
2. Focus Brings **Discipline**: *For Godliness!*

“Discipline yourself for the purpose of godliness; for bodily discipline is only of little profit, but godliness is profitable for all things, since it holds promise for the present life and also for the life to come”

(1 Timothy 4:7b-8)

Choose **goal-directed behavior** over other choices.

* **Invest in lasting values**, the Word of God and souls
* “The fruit of the righteous is a tree of life, And he who is wise wins souls…” (Proverbs 11:30).
3. **Multiply Your Impact** – *Join God’s Team*

* If it’s worth YOUR time, multiply by involving others.

Example: Backpack Love  
Beginnings in 2010 – kids hungry over the weekend (counselors)  
“Let’s send backpacks of food home every Friday!”

* 1 in 5 Hall County children “food insecure” 2016

* 500 backpacks sent home a WEEK

* Flat Creek handles between 15 – 20 a week
The Power of a Cooperative Effort!

The 20 mule team story = Power of working together!

What we accomplish as a church FAMILY:
* venue for training in Christ
* corporate worship and prayer
* “20-mule team” missions
  - Lottie Moon = $155,000,000
Commit to **Strategic Service @ Church!**

Addresses the question, what *maximizes impact?* **Solo** effort, or **team** effort?

* baseball? Even a “star” needs 8 more on the team!
* politics? What can you accomplish alone?
* brain surgeon? How effective without support staff?

Lone Ranger Christian???

“Now you are Christ’s body, and individually members of it”

(1 Corinthians 12:27).