

Greetings to all the wonderful Saints at Manatee Life,

SCRIPTURE:

Ecclesiastes 3:1-5 (MSG) – Larger Reading: Ecclesiastes 3:1-14

“There's an opportune time to do things, a right time for everything on the earth: A right time for birth and another for death, A right time to plant and another to reap, A right time to kill and another to heal, A right time to destroy and another to construct, A right time to cry and another to laugh, A right time to lament and another to cheer, A right time to make love and another to abstain, A right time to embrace and another to part”

STORY:

Take time to think – it is the source of power

Take time to read – it is the foundation of wisdom

Take time to pray – it is the secret of staying young

Take time to be aware – it is the opportunity to seek God

Take time to love and be loved – it is God's greatest gift

Take time to laugh – it is the music of the soul

Take time to be friendly – it is the road to happiness

Take time to dream – it is what the future is made of

Take time to pray – it is the greatest power on earth

OBSERVATION:

We are all given the same number of hours in a day ... then why do some individuals accomplish so much while others accomplish so very little. According to my older brother it all boils down to time management. According to his secretary, who was a minister's spouse, he was a little obsessed with time management ... he kept track of day in 5 minute segments. Between you and me, that is a little crazy, but that was my brother.

It is too easy to waste time via TV, Computer, Phone (playing solitaire), etc. Just moving through the day without a focus, direction or purpose. Now here is a shocking statement ... and I don't mean to offend anyone ... Are you bored? If you are, then by chance you are not using the precious time that God has given to you at the beginning of each day. As you can discover, by doing something unselfishly for others time literally flies by. You will wonder where it all went.

The challenge is to set goals (make a list) and then ask the all-important question: Does this activity help me to achieve my goals? Depending on the answer ones activity could change and before long accomplishing great things will become the story of our life.

We have the time to do whatever it is that we really want to do ... really we do!

QUOTE:

“There comes a time when the world gets quiet and the only thing left is your own heart. So you'd better learn the sound of it. Otherwise you'll never understand what its saying.”

– Sarah Dessen

PRAYER:

Gracious God help us to be faithful stewards of the hours and minutes that have been placed in our hands. Help us to use them wisely. Help us to handle them with care. Help us to be your disciple in all things. Amen.

And the faith journey continues, Pastor Jim

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The sermon this week is, “I’m Confused!” and Balaam truly was as are we in the midst of this Pandemic. The points of the sermon are: Looking but not seeing; Knowing but not understanding; and Doing but not obeying. “See” you in worship via Facebook.

In person worship is scheduled to begin October 25 ... following all the previous guidelines. Praying that there isn’t another surge in the Covid-19.