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## Daily Devotional, Tuesday, November 14, 2017 - Time for Success

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NOVEMBER 14TH 2017 BY DEE LOFLIN

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### **Ephesians 5:15-17**

Every night before falling asleep, I write down my goals for the following day. Upon waking, I read through the list in order to focus my energy on what is most important. If this were not part of my routine, the limited hours available would not be utilized effectively.

The Bible clearly teaches us to use our days wisely. Time is a gift. Almighty God has given each person a span of days to live on earth. But our life is fleeting and uncertain—James compares it to a vapor that “appears for a little while and then vanishes away” (James 4:14). Time is also irrevocable—we cannot simply go back and start over.

Considering this, it is foolish to waste such a precious resource. Yet all too often we do. Let’s be alert so we can avoid the following hindrances to living fully and purposefully:

**Misplaced priorities result in wasted opportunities.** Our values will determine the emphasis we place on each activity and the amount of time we allot to it.

**Procrastination and perfectionism soak up valuable time.** Avoiding both will help us make the most of our contributions to the kingdom of God.

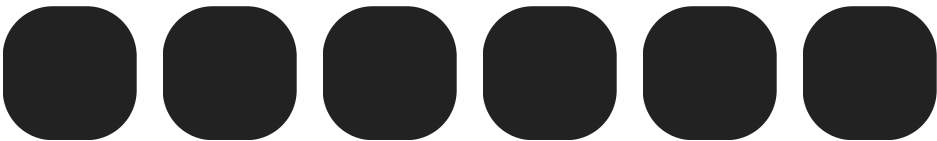
**Lack of concentration drains time of its potential.** For example, we have to train ourselves to focus on reading God’s Word and not to get sidetracked.

What values determine how you utilize your time? Is there something that keeps you from living each moment in a way that pleases the Lord? Since it’s not possible to redo days you wish had turned out differently, ask God’s guidance and live more intentionally.

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