

“Seize the Moment”

January 5, 2020

Announcements:

- 21 days of Fasting & Prayer (not begging God, to bless or pay attention...it's about getting our attention, appetites, & affections refocused on the Lord....)

Men's: Super Bowl Pre-game. easthill.org/brotherhood

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I. “CARPE DIEM” (Be PRESENT in this moment)

The saying is used to encourage someone to make the most of the present rather than dwelling on the future or past

Carpe: enjoy, seize, use, make use of

Diem: Day

Ephesians 5:15-17 Therefore see that you walk carefully [living life with honor, purpose, and courage; shunning those who tolerate and enable evil], not as the unwise, but as wise [sensible, intelligent, discerning people], ¹⁶ making the very most of your time [on earth, recognizing and taking advantage of each opportunity and using it with wisdom and diligence], because the days are [filled with] evil. ¹⁷ Therefore do not be **foolish and thoughtless**, but understand *and* firmly grasp what the will of the Lord is.

- To **seize the moment** means to make the most of the **moment** you are living. NOT in the Past, & NOT in the Future
- We MAXIMIZE THIS MOMENT for God's GLORY
- **REGRET** is using today's grace to undo yesterday's mistakes & missed opportunities...**FROM HERE!**

Phil 3:13-14 Brothers and sisters, I do not consider that I have made it my own yet; but one thing I do: forgetting what lies behind and reaching forward to what *lies* ahead, ¹⁴ I press on toward the goal to win the [heavenly] prize of the upward call of God in Christ Jesus (the entire aim of our lives)

Forget: to neglect, to no longer nurture, entertain, or give hospitality to

“Whatever, or whoever you focus on you give life to...”

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- **Focus on improving each step in your race....**toward the goal of being like & with Christ

II. **“SETTING THE COMPASS”**

Locate & Orient: before you set off...you must **“locate yourself”**

- Before you set off and begin your journey in 2020.
- **You must stop and chart a new course** for every area of your life (Spiritually, Emotionally, Physically Relationally, Financially). **Or you will likely repeat the past and keep traveling in circles**

“Everyone ends up some place, some just end up some place on purpose through intentionality”

Genesis 3:9 ⁹ But the Lord God called to Adam, and said to him, **“Where are you?”**

Where am I? Where are we? (in every area of your life)

- **Start Spiritually: for** it is the found
- You must tell yourself the TRUTH.
- Denial will ensure you stay stuck and traveling in circles

“FIRST THINGS FIRST”

Matthew 6:33 But first *and* most importantly seek (aim at, strive after) His kingdom and His righteousness [His way of doing and being right—the attitude and character of God], and all these things will be given to you also.

John 15:4-5 **Remain** in Me, and I [will **remain**] in you. Just as no branch can bear fruit by itself without **remaining** in the vine, neither can you [bear fruit, producing evidence of your faith] unless you **remain** in Me. ⁵I am the Vine; you are the branches. The one who **remains** in Me and I in him bears much fruit, for [otherwise] **apart from Me [that is, cut off from vital union with Me] you can do nothing.**

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“The proof of desire is found in pursuit”

(Whoever/whatever you pursue is what you truly desire)

III. **WHY AM I? FOR WHAT PURPOSE DO I EXIST?**

Purpose: the reason for which something is done or created or for which something exists.

“Every person or product ever created was created for a reason/purpose”

- Why am I still here? Why did I survive? Why did I get free?
- None of us are an accident or a product of happenstance, not a mistake
- **Many seek purpose...APART FROM GOD/CREATOR**

Two Paths: (Rick Warren)

- **Speculation:** is forming of a theory or conjecture without firm evidence.
Sny: guess, presume, suspect

“Whenever purpose is unknown, abuse is inevitable”

- **Revelation –**
 - An uncovering, a bringing to light of that which had been previously wholly hidden or only obscurely seen.
 - The supernatural communication of truth to the mind;
 - Is how God, the Creator of all things, makes himself known to us
 - enables me to see what was previously obscure or hidden.

“The Call of Jeremiah”

Jeremiah 1:4-5 The word of the Lord came to me, saying, ⁵“Before I formed you in the womb I knew you, before you were born I set you apart; I appointed you as a prophet to the nations.”

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⁴ The Lord said to me, ⁵ “I chose you before I gave you life, and before you were born I selected you to be a prophet to the nations.”

(vs.4) “...The word of the Lord came to me” (Revelation)

(vs. 5) “ I chose you...before I gave you life”

- He chose you...With complete FOREKNOWLEDGE...
(and all power to restore, heal, & deliver)

(vs. 5b) “I set you apart”

- Consecrated...set apart for a divine purpose (NOT COMMON)
- For HIS purposes “to be a prophet”...heralding His word

“What have you been appointed to do?”

**Do what is AVAILABLE and NEEDED,
until the ultimate is revealed**

Close:

1st - Carpe Diem – Seize the Day...be present in this moment and make the most of your time to glorify God

2nd – Setting The Compass – Locate & Reorient, Where are you? In every area of your life... Spiritual

3rd – Why am I? For What Purpose Do I Exist? – do you know your purpose...

Altar: FIRST THINGS FIRST...come home!