

IT'S ABOUT TIME

In Psalms it says, "Teach us to number our days, that we may gain a heart of wisdom."¹

I watched a movie called *About Time*² where the men of a certain family could go back in time to correct mistakes or replay moments in their lives. I'm sure all of us could benefit from something like that. We could right any wrongs, change a decision we made, or make awkward situations better.

In the movie, the father advises his son to live every day twice. He suggests that he live it the first time with all the tension and worries that stop him from noticing how sweet the world could be, and the second time taking time to stop and notice—to love the people around him and enjoy all the beautiful things.

We unfortunately don't have the luxury of traveling back in time. We only get one chance to live through each day, and sometimes we forget how priceless each day is. But we can live each day the first time around as if we had chosen to come back to this day and make note of all the wonderful things in it.



I don't know who originally came up with this anecdote, but it's a great reminder of how valuable our time on earth is. Suppose you were credited \$86,400 every day, which was reflected in your bank account. However, let's say there was a catch: you couldn't save any of this money. Every evening, the bank cancelled whatever part of the amount you had failed to use during the day. Well, you'd catch on pretty quick that every day you'd want to spend every cent as effectively as possible.

The fact of the matter is that we have something much more valuable than money; it is called time. Every morning, it credits you with 86,400 seconds, which represents 1,440 minutes, which equals 24 hours each day. Every night, the bank of time rules off as lost whatever time you failed to invest. It carries no balances. It allows no overdrafts. Each day, the bank of time opens a new account with you, and each night, it burns up the records of the day. Even if you fail to use the day's deposits, you must take the loss.

You might think: *Time isn't more valuable than money. I'd rather take 86,400 in currency than in seconds, please.* But how valuable do you think that money will be to you when you've got no time left?



You may recall the short story in the Bible that Jesus told about the rich fool³ who stored up all his wealth in barns, and when they couldn't hold any more, he decided to build bigger barns in order to keep it all for himself. God wasn't impressed, and told him that that same night he would die. What do you think he was able to take with him of all the things he had selfishly kept from others and from God? Nothing!

I think you'd agree with me that time is the most valuable asset in our lives, and only we can determine how it will be spent. So let's take time to notice all the beauty God has given to us and to love all those who are important to us.

Footnotes

¹ Psalm 90:12 NIV

² http://www.imdb.com/title/tt2194499/?ref_=ttqt_qt_tt

³ Luke 12:13–21

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