You are not your own, for you were bought with a price. (1 Cor.6:19b-20a)

So receive him in the Lord with all joy, and honor such men, for he nearly died for the work of Christ, risking his life to complete what was lacking in your service to me. (Phil.2:29-30)

Commit Your Life

Don't Waste Your Life

Look carefully then how you walk [live], not as unwise but as wise, making the best use of the time, because the days are evil. Therefore do not be foolish, but understand what the will of the Lord is. (Ephesians 5:15-17)

I. Live Carefully (v.15).

Look carefully then how you walk. (v.15)

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Be very careful, then, how you live. (NIV)

Therefore, be careful.

Therefore, having put away falsehood, let each one of you speak the truth with his neighbor, for we are members one of another. (Eph.4:25).

Tim McGraw song: "I Don't Know Why You've Got to Be Angry All the Time"

Be angry and do not sin; do not let the sun go down on your anger (Eph.4:26).

But sexual immorality and all impurity or covetousness must not even be named among you, as is proper among saints. Let there be no filthiness nor foolish talk nor crude joking, which are out of place, but instead let there be thanksgiving.

For you may be sure of this, that everyone who is sexually immoral or impure, or who is covetous (that is, an idolater), has no inheritance in the kingdom of Christ and God. (Eph.5:3-5)

be filled with the Spirit (v.18)

II. Live wisely (v.15).

not as unwise, but wise (v.15)

John Stott:

1. Christians are wise people, not fools.

So be careful how you live. Don't live like fools, but like those who are wise. (v.15, NLT)

John Stott:

2. Christian wisdom is practical wisdom – it teaches us how to behave.

Look carefully, then, how you walk or live. (v.15)

Now this I say and testify in the Lord, that you must no longer walk as the Gentiles do, in the futility of their minds. (Eph.4:17)

A wise person has correct knowledge (intellectual wisdom), understands how to apply that knowledge to life (practical wisdom), and demonstrates godly character in all things (moral wisdom).

III. Make the best use of our time (v.16)

making the best use of your time (v.16)

making the most of every opportunity. (NIV)

Rick Warren:

1 - Is it worth it?

2 - What are you going to give up?

- 1st Quarter: Birth-20 years old growing up; learning; exploring
- 2nd Quarter: 21-40 years old finding your place; your mate; having children; maturing
- 3rd Quarter: 41-60 years old established; focused; empty nest; grandchildren; aging parents
- 4th Quarter: 61 80 years old closing out career; starting second career; adjusting to slower-paced lifestyle; health issues; realizing your mortality
- Overtime: 81 years old & up winding down; struggling to stay active; increasing loneliness; decreasing independence; health problems; facing death