

## Time is Important!

**Ice-Breaker:** (Group Leader - Have everyone in your group answer this question. Start with one person and then proceed around the group in a circle until the last person has answered. Be specific with who you would like to start with.)

- What were you doing **five** years ago, and **ten** years ago?
- Does time go by quickly?

## James 4:13-17

*13 Come now, you who say, "Today or tomorrow we will<sup>[g]</sup> go to such and such a city, spend a year there, buy and sell, and make a profit"; 14 whereas you do not know what will happen tomorrow. For what is your life? It is even a **vapor** that appears for a **little time** and then vanishes away. 15 Instead you ought to say, "If the Lord wills, we shall live and do this or that." 16 But now you boast in your arrogance. All such boasting is evil.*

*17 Therefore, to him who knows to do good and does not do it, to him it is sin.*

**Tough Questions to Consider:** (Group Leader - Ask 3 or 4 specific people to answer these questions.)

1. Is it difficult to think of life like a vapor?
2. Does that mean we should simply let the time that we do have pass by without meaning?
3. What is a moment in time from your past that meant something to you?

## Exercise: Determining Values

- **Write down 3-5 things that you are extremely grateful for from your past.**
  - These provide insight into areas that you value in life.
  - Has the business of life allowed valuable moments to pass by?

**TEXT Luke 12:13-21** Jesus tells a story. (Group Leader - Ask someone to read the text out loud.)

## Walk in Wisdom

### Ephesians 5:15-16

*See then that you walk **circumspectly**, not as fools but as wise, 16 redeeming the **time**, because the days are evil.*

**Group Question:** (Group Leader - Ask 2 or 3 specific people to answer these questions.)

- What are the current circumstances in your life?
  - Merely identifying them allows you to start to focus on walking circumspectly.

**Redeeming means to buy back or go and take ahold of. Time refers to moments or opportunities rather than minutes.**

- What opportunity is before you that you should grab ahold of so that it does not slip away?
  - Another way to look at the days are evil is to note that evil things die. The days are dying away but you have the ability to redeem them, bringing them back to life.
- What is Jesus' role in redemption and how does that work play a role in the way you should live today?

**Closing Question:** (Group Leader - Ask everyone to answer the challenge.)

- What is one specific area in your life that you want to redeem the time in this year?

**Closing Challenge:** (Group Leader - Ask everyone to answer the challenge.)

- Write down that specific area and place it somewhere that you can see it daily.

**Closing Prayer:** (Group Leader - Ask someone to pray for the group out loud or have everyone in the group pray.)

- Holy Spirit, we invite you to help us grab ahold of temporary times and see eternal value in them.

**Thanks:** Thanks to everyone for coming to group.