

DAY 16**Live with Urgency****God's Word for Today**

Read Luke 16:19-31 and Luke 21:25-28

Thoughts for Today

Jesus is coming again! Our redemption is drawing near. But people without the saving work of Jesus Christ are headed to horrible torment in hell.

In 2002, one year after the 9/11 terrorist attacks, I was asked by the North American Mission Board to consider being the prayer coordinator for the Strategic Focus Cities emphasis in New York City. I had been involved with prayer retreats and conferences in the city. Though my family could not relocate, I knew at the least I needed to pray. The Lord brought 1 Corinthians 7:29 to my attention: "The time is short: it remaineth, that both they that have wives be as though they had none" (KJV). My wife and family prayed and sensed God was asking us for a different measure of sacrifice. So for over two years, I lived in New York for three weeks each month and spent the other week in Tennessee with my family.

Time is short and eternity is long. We've been warned what life without Christ will be like in eternity. The Lord wants none "to perish, but all to come to repentance" (2 Pet. 3:9). On my way to New York City, I realized that "time is short" could mean the Lord knows other attacks are coming. But then I realized "time is short" could mean that Jesus' second coming is near. Finally, I realized that life is short. Whether the Lord returns soon, or I face a tragedy or disease that could take my life, or I just grow old—any way my life on earth concludes—time to trust Christ is short. Then I realized I need to live my life with urgency. I can't afford to waste my time and life on trivial matters.

As you pray for those in your circles of relationships who are yet to believe, keep their eternal destiny on your heart.

It's Time to Pray

1. Ask God to reveal to you the people around you who are headed to torment without Christ. Ask Him to give you a view of the masses around the world who are yet to hear about Jesus. Ask Him to give you His compassion for those for whom He died and ask Him to stir up an urgency in your living for His sake.
2. Ask God what He wants you to do today to apply what He has revealed. What actions will you take?
3. Pray today by name for a person who has yet to believe in Christ as Savior. List the name on page 25 and see page 24 for ways to pray.