



WHAT TIME IS IT? IT'S GAME TIME

HOSEA 10:12

INTRODUCTION: The Big Game & being in the huddle until you hear the whistle... It's **GAME-TIME!**

Hosea 10:12 NIV *Sow righteousness for yourselves, reap the fruit of unfailing love & break up your unplowed ground; for it is time to seek the Lord, until He comes & showers His righteousness on you.*

Don't sow for others... you've got to first sow into your own life.

The greatest investment that you can ever make in life is by investing in yourself.

Most people are like the starving baker. They give give give but never eat anything for themselves.

One translation says to break up the hardness in your life... Is there any bitterness, envy, jealousy, anger, unforgiveness? Get the soil of your life right. God's word can only land well on good soil. Your heart has to be in a good place. That's why we worship to get our hearts in a good place to receive.

What's interesting about following Jesus is that we're seeking Him when he first sought after us. Can you feel it? Can you sense it? Now more than ever, God wants us to seek after Him.

I don't know where you're at physically but it's time to seek God. I don't know where you're at financially but it's time. Maybe your stressed & at a loss with just the way things are in your life... Maybe your marriage is not where you want it to be. Maybe your kids are wearing you out cause it's summer break. Maybe you find yourself in transition & every part of your being wants to know what's next but it's not happening... It's time to seek God.

Stop seeking culture, stop seeking social media, stop seeking validation from here or there...

The word being used here is sow... but in today's culture it would be invest! Sowing is Investing.

ILLUSTRATION: Personal Story - Changing from sowing in the flesh to sowing in the spirit.

Galatians 6:7-8 NIV *Do not be deceived: God cannot be mocked. A man reaps what He sows. 8 Whoever sows to please their flesh, from the flesh will reap destruction; whoever sows to please the Spirit, from the spirit will reap eternal life.*

The only thing worse than being deceived by somebody else is being deceived by yourself.



Thinking you're someone that you're not. Thinking that you're in a particular place but you're not. A man who sows to the flesh will reap destruction. But the man who sows in the spirit will reap life!

God's talking to us today about sowing about investing. We have to stop blaming others. We can't afford to play the blame game. Well if so & so would have... My boss, friend, spouse, kids...

The only problem with playing the blame game is that it doesn't get me anywhere. When I call timeout and take a step back... The common thing behind all my problems is me. The only consistent thing behind all my issues is that I'm still in all of my issues.

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Luke 6:42 NLT *How can you think of saying, 'Friend, let me help you get rid of that speck in your eye, when you can't see past the log in your own eye?*

The blame game is a hypocritical life...
It's all their fault, their problem, issue, political party, them them them.

But truth is... God starts with you. He starts with me. God says that when you sow righteousness, you sow into the spirit. You invest into your life. They are not the issue. I am the issue. I have hurts, pains, struggles, problems & that's why God starts with me!

God allows me to receive His love, grace & mercy. He doesn't make others drink from the well. He draws ME close so I can drink from the well.

I love this simple truth about God. God wants to work in & through You. He Loves You. His passion is You. God's always addressing you in the Old Testament & New Testament...

He calls Abraham in **Genesis 12** saying, I will bless you & you will be a blessing... You will be the father of many nations. You will be the blessed one. The one that I will work through.

God's blessing doesn't rest on your _____, It rests on You.

2 Timothy 3:16-17 NLT *God uses his word to prepare & equip his people to do every good work.*

Stop blaming others & start investing into your lives... Your peace, joy, strength.

I can't give away what I don't have. God wants to do a mighty work in you & then He will do it through you. Your health, your life, your mind, your soul & spirit. Your excitement about life...

I wonder what Covid has done to you... What has this pandemic season tried to steal from you? What has been damaged in your life over these past 2 years?

I believe that for many of us, it's tried to steal our **PASSION** & our **PURPOSE**.

When you don't have passion, you lack motivation, because there is nothing fueling you. Passion comes from God! The Holy Spirit works in you to give you fire to live. Purpose (The Why?) in your life... Purpose in relationships, direction. God is speaking to you today so that He can invest in your passion & your purpose!

You have been equipped with Passion & Purpose from God!!!



It's no one's fault... **The hardest person to lead in this life is myself!**

When I can learn to lead myself, leading others is easy. I don't want to live my life blaming others... Calling them out when I've got enough stuff on my own.

Never give people the power or control over the narrative of your life. God is writing it! Only God can write the story of your life. Only God can write the story of Mesa Church. It doesn't fall on any one person... but it fully rests on God.

PRAY: God we thank you & we're believing for Ephesians 3:20...

INVEST IN COMMUNITY

But I thought you said to invest in ourselves... Community is the best investment that you can make into your life. It's the smartest thing you can do. Without it, you're not going to be strong, develop, you can't step into your future.

Community will never start with them... but it starts with You!

Proverbs 18:24 NKJV *A man who has friends must himself be friendly...*

Proverbs 18:1 NKJV *A man who isolates himself seeks his own desire; he rages against all wise judgment.*

If I want friends, I gotta be a friend. If I want community I gotta be in community.

Commitment lasts longer in community... Isolation is where the enemy wins.

The best thing you have going for you is your relationships. I may not have all the physical riches in this world but I am wealthy beyond my years... because of my relationships.

Your network is your net worth! The community that loves, surrounds & supports you. What do you have to do in order to start making things happen?

ILLUSTRATION: Taco Tuesday

Will other people love it? Will other people benefit from it? Want to know who it will bless the most?

Write down 5 names... who's your crew, your squad... are they crazy? Awesome... Community is messy & I'm down for it. Just like Jordan said the other week... Community comes with problems, issues, opinions & offenses. But conflict is what makes us stronger. It binds us together.

ILLUSTRATION: Marriage (Someone I can enjoy life with but also suffer with...)

INVEST IN TIME OFF

If you're going make it... If you're going to succeed. You have to rest really well.

If you ain't rested, you ain't ready. If you want to do a good days work, get a good night's rest.

Matthew 11:28-30 MSG *"Are you tired? Worn out? Burned out on religion? Come to me. Get away with me & you'll recover your life. I'll show you how to take a real rest. Walk with me & work with me. Watch how I do it. Learn the unforced rhythms of grace. I won't lay anything heavy or ill fitting on you. Keep company with me & you'll learn to live freely & lightly."*



You're not happy when you're full of drama... When you are one moment away from needing a snickers. You're not happy when all you do is work, work, work.

You're happy when you obey the rhythm God has established.

God models it first because he's not going to ask you to do anything he's not willing to do first!

CREATION STORY | TEN COMMANDMENTS

Exodus 23:12 NKJV Six days you shall do your work & on the seventh day you shall rest.

God has called us to work... Work six days than rest... Why? If you ain't rested, you ain't ready...

What do I do on my day off?

Reflect on God's faithfulness that got me here & prepare my heart with faith for my future.

Anyone Grateful for rest? Rest keeps us humble & our heart in the right place.

It reminds me that I don't produce it all. I don't make it all happen. I don't earn what God gives me.

I don't have to prove myself to anyone.

Rest reminds me that even when I don't work... God I trust that you are working!

Unplug, get away, take a trip, do something that gives you life. Create memories / moments!

Time-off gets us excited about the future. It reminds us of God's faithfulness. **(Hawaii Photo)**

Thank God & prepare to be filled with passion & purpose for what lies ahead.

INVEST IN YOUR DEVELOPMENT

ILLUSTRATION: Lebron James invests 1.5 Million a year into his personal health...

Gym, trainer, chef, nutrition, recovery, treatments...

Loving yourself isn't selfish... it's stewardship.

What are you doing to invest into yourself? What books, mentors, podcasts...

Everyone wants to be a blessing but you've got to be blessed first.


2 Peter 1:5-9 MSG *So don't lose a minute in building on what you've been given, complementing your basic faith with good character, spiritual understanding, alert discipline, passionate patience, reverent wonder, warm friendliness, and generous love. Each dimension fitting into & developing the others. With these qualities active & growing in your lives, no grass will grow under your feet, no day will pass without its reward as you mature in your experience of our master Jesus. Without these qualities you can't see what's right before you, oblivious that your old sinful life has been wiped off the books.*

Don't waste a minute... spend time growing & becoming better. You'll miss out what God wants to do right before you. But when you do, you'll see that you're a work in progress. You're under construction & the best is yet to come. Don't be complacent with where you are now. Know that you can still mature into what God has for you.

If you feel guilty or shameful about where you are... Know that no one grows rapidly overnight. Your life grows in the peaks & the dips.

People grow in spurts & in seasons... they don't grow all year long.

Examples: 21 Days of Prayer... **Launch Team**



What short time frame can you commit to see growth happen in your life?
Invest into who you are! Your reading time, worship time, family, marriage...

CLOSE

INVEST IN YOUR TEAM (Worship Team Come Up)

To get to where you need to go, you need a team... Jesus knew what was coming & He built a team. Who is on your team? You're only as good as your team.

Proverbs 11:14 AMP

Where there is no guidance, the people fall, but in the abundance of counselors there is victory.

Not everyone that is for you is good for you... People that really know you!
There needs to be some people who will be your ride or dies. On your good days & in your bad days.
People who are committed to you. People that want to see you win!

Sow into your house, your relationships... Understand that they will be standing on the foundations that are built today. Who's in your top 5? Parents, Pastors, Group Leaders, Friends, Family, Mentors.

The people that you build life with are the ones you will journey with.

Luke 6:47-49 TPT *Let me describe the one who truly follows me & does what I say. 48 He is like a man who chooses the right place to build a house & then lays a deep & secure foundation. When the storms & floods rage against that house, it continues to stand strong & unshaken through the tempest, for it has been wisely build on the right foundation. 49 But the one who has heard my teaching & does not obey it is like a man who builds a house with out laying any foundation whatsoever. When the storms & floods rage against that house, it will immediately collapse & become a total loss.*

Which of the two builders will you be?

Build your values on who God has called you to be.

Understand that the final whistle has not gone off & that it's **GAME-TIME**

Is your life a reflection of destruction? Maybe you're listening right now thinking that it's over... you're finished but I'm here to tell you it's a new day. It's a new season and the best is yet to come... It's time to walk in peace, strength. Sow for yourself righteousness because it's **GAME-TIME**

Break up the hard ground, surrender the bitterness, let go of the guilt & pain, invest in yourself, invest in your community. See God pour himself out before you! See what is to come. Start believing in faith today for God to show up & bring newness to your life. Stop coasting, stop playing the blame game... **IT'S GAME-TIME**