

TODAY AND TOMORROW

Pastor Chad Gilligan | July 2, 2023

I. YOU WILL NOT KNOW THE VALUE OF TODAY UNTIL TOMORROW

Deuteronomy 28:13 The LORD will make you the head, not the tail. If you pay attention to the commands of the LORD your God that I give you this day and carefully follow them, you will always be at the top, never at the bottom.

2 Corinthians 5:10 For we must all appear before the judgment seat of Christ, so that each of us may receive what is due us for the things done while in the body, whether good or bad.

Ephesians 5:15-16 (ESV) Look carefully then how you walk, not as unwise but as wise,¹⁶ making the best use of the time, because the days are evil.

II. FOUR THINGS TO THINK ABOUT TODAY

1. *Your Seasons Today*

Ecclesiastes 3:1 There is a time for everything, and a season for every activity under the heavens:

A. Seasons change!

Psalms 37:25-27 I was young and now I am old, yet I have never seen the righteous forsaken or their children begging bread.²⁶ They are always generous and lend freely; their children will be a blessing.²⁷ Turn from evil and do good; then you will dwell in the land forever.

- *God's faithfulness appreciates with age.*

Ecclesiastes 12:1 Remember your Creator in the days of your youth, before the days of trouble come and the years approach when you will say, "I find no pleasure in them"—

- *If you live in your yesterdays, they will fill your todays and rob your tomorrows.*

B. Don't stay stuck in yesterday.

2 Corinthians 5:17 Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, the new creation has come: The old has gone, the new is here!

- *No matter your yesterday, today is the best time to start shaping your tomorrow.*

2. Your Family Today

- *Let yesterday's lessons launch you into tomorrow's blessings.*

A. Build Your Marriage Today

Genesis 2:24 That is why a man leaves his father and mother and is united to his wife, and they become one flesh.

- *Do not ignore your marriage until there is a crisis.*
- *What you do not invest in today may end up being a crisis tomorrow.*

B. Invest In Your Children Today

Deuteronomy 6:6-9 These commandments that I give you today are to be on your hearts. ⁷ Impress them on your children. Talk about them when you sit at home and when you walk along the road, when you lie down and when you get up. ⁸ Tie them as symbols on your hands and bind them on your foreheads. ⁹ Write them on the doorframes of your houses and on your gates.

- *What influence decisions are you making that will impact your children?*
- *What spiritual decisions are you making that will impact your children?*

Ephesians 6:4 Fathers, do not exasperate your children; instead, bring them up in the training and instruction of the Lord.

C. Don't let today's annoyance become tomorrow's regret.

D. Tomorrow you will see how special today is.

3. Your Calling Today

Matthew 25:21 “His master replied, ‘Well done, good and faithful servant! You have been faithful with a few things; I will put you in charge of many things. Come and share your master's happiness!’

A. Faithfulness is Fruitfulness.

Ephesians 5:15-21(ESV) Look carefully then how you walk, not as unwise but as wise, ¹⁶ making the best use of the time, because the days are evil. ¹⁷ Therefore do not be foolish, but understand what the will of the Lord is. ¹⁸ And do not get drunk with wine, for that is debauchery, but be filled with the Spirit, ¹⁹ addressing one another in psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, singing and making melody to the Lord with your heart, ²⁰ giving thanks always and for everything to God the Father in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, ²¹ submitting to one another out of reverence for Christ.

B. The seeds of today are the harvest of tomorrow.

Deuteronomy 6:10-12 When the LORD your God brings you into the land he swore to your fathers, to Abraham, Isaac and Jacob, to give you—a land with large, flourishing cities you did not build, ¹¹ houses filled with all kinds of good things you did not provide, wells you did not dig, and vineyards and olive groves you did not plant—then when you eat and are satisfied, ¹² be careful that you do not forget the LORD, who brought you out of Egypt, out of the land of slavery.

C. Be careful not to take for granted the blessings that have been passed down to you.

4. Your God Today

Isaiah 55:6 Seek the LORD while he may be found; call on him while he is near.

Isaiah 55:7 Let the wicked forsake their ways and the unrighteous their thoughts. Let them turn to the LORD, and he will have mercy on them, and to our God, for he will freely pardon.

A. Find forgiveness today for tomorrow.

Isaiah 55:8-11 ⁸ “For my thoughts are not your thoughts, neither are your ways my ways,” declares the LORD. ⁹ “As the heavens are higher than the earth, so are my ways higher than your ways and my thoughts than your thoughts. ¹⁰ As the rain and the snow come down from heaven, and do not return to it without watering the earth and making it bud and flourish, so that it yields seed for the sower and bread for the

eater, ¹¹ so is my word that goes out from my mouth: It will not return to me empty, but will accomplish what I desire and achieve the purpose for which I sent it.

B. Find purpose today for tomorrow.

12 You will go out in joy and be led forth in peace; the mountains and hills will burst into song before you, and all the trees of the field will clap their hands.

C. Find joy and peace today for tomorrow.

13 Instead of the thornbush will grow the juniper, and instead of briers the myrtle will grow. This will be for the LORD'S renown, for an everlasting sign, that will endure forever.”

D. Find resilience today for tomorrow.