

MY FAMILY STORY

REDEEMING THE TIME

- Evaluate the condition of your flock
- Be intentional and make it meaningful
- Slow down
- Change your perspective of success
- Be fully present
- Don't cheat
- Planned spontaneity
- Integrating the spiritual life into daily life

The Brevity of Life - Just a Phase Video
justaphase.com

God's Priority and Pay Off!

*Message given by Matt Heinrich, Spiritual Growth Pastor at Rise City Church
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CRAZY BUSY: Missed Opportunities

Ephesians 5:14-20

Happy Birthday Rise!

Ephesians 5:14-20

"Wake up" =

"Be careful how you live" =

"Make the most of every opportunity"/ "Redeem the time" =

"The days are evil" =

THE POINT IS...

If the Greatest Commandment was to... Love God and Love thy Neighbor...
and the Great Commission was to go and make disciples...

There is no greater privilege and opportunity in life then to disciple our children. Discipleship in it's purest form is a relationship that helps people better know, follow and obey Jesus.

THE PROBLEM

A Sickness or a Season?

2 Fundamental Questions Regarding Missed Opportunities

1. **What's the priority?**

2. **What is the pay-off?**

**For continued message outline, please turn to the backside of this handout.*

CRAZY BUSY: Missed Opportunities

Ephesians 5:14-20

Date: 10/2/2017

GETTING STARTED

What were your favorite activities (sports, dance, etc.) to participate in growing up? How many years did you do those activities?

SUNDAY RECAP

Have you ever felt like you missed out on something important in life? I think we can all relate, whether it's something small like a social event or something big like a child's graduation from high school. One of the greatest opportunities we have in life is to invest in our children and those closest to us. Parents have an average of 3,000 influence hours a year with their kids. That doesn't include time when they are sleeping or at school! A child's school has 1300 hours and the church has an average of 40 per year. It is obvious that the greatest opportunity to invest spiritually is in the lives of those closest to us, in our homes. We cannot allow our busyness to keep us from these opportunities and what God desires most.

STUDY & SHARE

1. This week's message highlighted the idea of missed opportunities, especially in the area of discipleship and raising our children. As you look back on your life, what missed opportunities come to your mind (this doesn't have to be in regards to raising kids)?
2. Read Ephesians chapter 5. Looking specifically at verses 14-20 – considering the context of all of chapter 5, how does this passage challenge our perspective on life and God?
 - a) What are some important takeaways for you?
 - b) Why would Paul want the church to be the model for how we ought to live and invest our lives? How does that connect to our series, Crazy Busy?
3. What does Paul mean when he suggests we need to “be careful with how we live our lives?”

a) What things come to mind when you hear the phrase, “Make the most of every opportunity?”

4. There are 2 important questions that need to be asked and answered in regards to missed opportunities. What is the priority and what is the pay-off?
 - a) How were you shaped (positive or negative) by your parent's priorities and pay offs growing up?
 - b) If you were to be honest about the priorities in your life, and what drives your choices/busyness, what would they be? What priorities in your life shape how you invest your time (you can answer this with children in mind or not)?
 - c) What is your “pay-off?” How can you begin to allow God to change your perspective on these issues?
5. Of the 8 ideas shared for redeeming the time, pick 2-3 to begin to address and apply in your life. Which ones are they and why? What did you find most helpful or difficult to apply and why?

SEND // GROUP CHALLENGE

Discuss some practical ways you can check in with each other during the week regarding the opportunities God has given you in life.

SUPPORT // PRAYER

Break up into small groups of 2-3 and have each person share something they need prayer for in the coming week in regards to busyness. Pray together.

These **Sermon Based Life Group Materials are provided by Rise City Church for the purpose of deeper study of God's Word and are best used in a small group setting. If you would like more information about Life Groups at Rise, please go the Life Groups page on our website or to the Rise City app.*