

Sunday, June 25, 2023

Scripture Reading: Romans 6:1b-11

I must govern the clock, not be governed by it. —Golda Meir

George Archer had a relatively successful career on the Professional Golf Tour (PGA), winning 13 tournaments, including the 1969 Masters. He won 19 tournaments on the Senior Tour. He was considered one of the game's all-time great putters, and at one time held the PGA Tour record for fewest putts over four rounds, with 94 putts at the Sea Pines Heritage in 1980 (1.3 per hole). The record stood for nine years, until broken by Kenny Knox in 1989.

As he drew closer to retiring from the sport, he wasn't exactly sure how to spend his time. One reporter asked what he would do during his retirement. Archer said, "Baseball players quit playing and take up golf. Basketball players quit and take up golf. Football players quit and take up golf. What are we golfers supposed to do when we quit?"

It's a good question, because it gets at the heart of how we spend our time, not only in retirement, but at any point in our lives.

In each day there are 24 *hours*, 1,440 *minutes*, and 86,400 *seconds*, and every one of them is a precious gift from God. Time is something we feel we never have enough of, yet we give it away so easily. "Time is free, but it's priceless," observed one sage. "You can't own it, but you can use it. You can't keep it, but you can spend it. Once you've lost it, you can never get it back."

Someone once observed that a wasted life is really nothing more than a collection of wasted days. As God gives us life, each one of us starts the new year with the same number of opportunities — 365 — that we can choose to either use and invest in eternal things or allow to drift by without taking advantage of the gift we have been given.

How should we spend our time? Perhaps the best answer comes from the Westminster Catechism: Question 1. What is the chief end of man? Answer: Man's chief end is to glorify God, and to enjoy him forever.

Our time is put to good use, if by our words and deeds, we glorify God and enjoy God's presence now and forever!

—Timothy Merrill

Prayer: I confess that I could spend my time more wisely. May I strive to be a better steward of it. Amen.

*Blessings,
Lead Pastor Ben Motz*

Daily Bible Readings
Sunday: Acts 1-2
Monday: Isaiah 25-27
Tuesday: Isaiah 28-30
Wednesday: Isaiah 31-33
Thursday: Isaiah 34-36
Friday: Isaiah 37-39
Saturday: Psalms 70-72

Beatitudes

Directions: Fill in the squares using the clues. Then, using the number codes, fill in the squares below to read three of the Beatitudes from Luke 6:20-21 (NIV).

Blessed
are the
meek,

for they
will
inherit
the
earth.
Matthew 5:5

1. Area behind house
2. Blooms
3. Precipitation
4. Puffy and white in sky
5. Soil
6. Green, needs water
7. You must hoe this
8. Tiptoe through these
9. Baby sheep
10. We need food & this
11. God made it from nothing
12. Sign after it rains
13. These, in April, bring
May flowers

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
9	10	11	12	13	14	15	
16	17	18	19				
20	21	22	23	24	25		
26	27	28	29				
30	31	32	33	34			
35	36	37	38	39	40		
41	42	43	44	45	46		
47	48	49	50	51			
52	53	54	55	56			
57	58	59	60	61	62	63	64
65	66	67	68	69	70	71	
72	73	74	75	76	77	78	

	1	10	13	15	25	39	38		2	7	13		5	22	23		12	73	11		17	31	39		45
22	63	7		9	70	56		5	22	23	58	46		27	15		61	73	13		4	18	19	30	26
22	49		22	9		30	63	26		1	47	55	72	78	39	26		60	77	59		5	74	23	
12	73	70		73	23	40	35	13	56		9	11	65		5	63	23		75	18	10	47		1	76
	72	48	61	27	34	9	44	13	26		1	43	55	72	78	76	24		2	7	13		5	22	23
75	73	22		12	59	39	45		64	63	52		9	22	58		5	70	42		52	44	10	47	
10	2	23	35	73																					

Answers: 1. backyard, 2. flowers, 3. rain, 4. clouds, 5. dirt, 6. grass, 7. garden, 8. tulips, 9. lambs, 10. water, 11. creation, 12. rainbow, 13. showers.