

Dear Lillian Methodist Church family,

In Ephesians chapter 5, Paul admonished the Ephesian church to "look carefully how you walk, not as unwise, but wise, redeeming the time, because the days are evil." God has allotted each of us a certain amount of time on the earth. Years can be reduced to months, which can be reduced to days. Each of those days is only 24 hours long. That is all we get. And the older we get, the faster time seems to move.

Time is a fleeting commodity. We cannot stop it. We cannot increase it. We cannot save it. It cannot be made up. However, we can redeem it. We can consider each day as a gift from God to be used for His glory. To redeem it is to "buy it up" so as not to waste it. We are to make the most of our time, since we do not know when our time will end. According to scripture, the wise redeem their time. The unwise do not. In my generation, the biggest time waster was television. Today, I suspect it is video games and social media.

At the judgment seat of Christ, we will give an account of what we did with our time on earth. Everyone has 24 hours a day to redeem and use wisely. Therefore, all activities must be prioritized in accordance with the word of God. That which we value, we will find time for. Do we value the same things as God, as evidenced by our obedience to His word? Or, do we squander our precious hours indulging in selfish, often meaningless pursuits? Somehow, I doubt Jesus is impressed with the amount of Facebook followers we have amassed.

We are all familiar with the words of Jesus: "Suffer little children to come unto Me." Jesus values children, therefore, so should we. Assisting in the upcoming Freedom Road VBS would be a valuable way to redeem a Saturday in July. If you have not already done so, please contact Children's Director Joyce Ellison, 251-752-5062, to find out how you can be a part of this unique one-day VBS.

See y'all Sunday
Perry Cunningham
Lay Leader