

## Take Time For Leisure

### I. Introduction:

A. We know the importance of staying busy in the right things (**I Corinthians 15:58** and **Titus 2:11-14**).

1. We know that we will be rewarded according to our works (**Matthew 16:27** and **II Corinthians 5:10**).

2. We know that our faith dies if we do not work (**James 2:14-26**).

B. We know that laziness is not befitting of a child of God (**Proverbs 6:6-11** and **Romans 12:11**).

1. This is true in the spiritual life of Christians (**Hebrews 6:10-12**).

2. It is also true in our physical labors (**II Thessalonians 3:7-15**).

3. Does this mean that we never get to take a break or enjoy the fruit of our labors?

### II. Body: What Does Our Lord Teach About Leisure (**Mark 6:30-32**)?

A. Our Lord never intended for our spiritual lives to be a burden and extremely difficult to live (**Matthew 11:28-30**).

1. We have a life of liberty in Christ (**Galatians 5:1**).

2. His commandments are not grievous (**I John 5:2-3**).

3. The life of Christ was about work (**John 4:31-38**), but He also took appropriate times of leisure for which some condemned Him (**Luke 7:31-35**).

4. As an example, consider how that God allows us to be married and care for the things of the world in such (**I Corinthians 7:32-34**).

B. God expects us to enjoy the lawful (**I Corinthians 10:31** and **Colossians 3:17**) physical things of life (**Ecclesiastes 2:24**, **Ecclesiastes 3:9-13**, and **I Timothy 6:17**).

1. We can and should “love life” (**Psalms 34:12-14** and **I Peter 3:10-11**).

2. At the same time, we have to balance this in reminding ourselves that we have surrendered our lives to Christ (**John 12:25-26** and **II Corinthians 5:14-15**).

3. We have to be cautious in not allowing our focus to change (**Romans 13:13-14** and **I Timothy 5:6**).

4. God doesn't expect us to get done with our physical responsibilities and then have the Scriptures in front of us the rest of the time (**Ecclesiastes 12:12**).

C. In all things, with BALANCE, understand the value of time (**Ephesians 5:16**).

1. Time is valuable (**Ecclesiastes 8:5** and **John 9:4**).

2. Time, in this world, is short (**II Samuel 14:14**, **Psalms 103:15-16**, and **James 4:13-16**).

3. We should redeem [buy up] time (**Colossians 4:5**; cf. **Psalms 90:12**).

### III. Conclusion: **Ecclesiastes 5:13-20**

*\*Leisure: “use of free time for enjoyment” (New Oxford American Dictionary)*