

TOOLS TO HELP BUILD THE KINGDOM OF JESUS CHRIST

The first tool: TIME

God gives you 24 hours in every day.

In Psalm 90:12, we are urged to “Teach us to number our days aright, that we may gain a heart of wisdom.”

And unknown author has described our time allotment in the following way:

If you had a bank that credited your account each morning with \$86,400—that carried over no balance from day to day—and allowed you to keep no cash in your account...and every evening canceled what ever part of the amount you had failed to use during the day—what would you do? Draw out every cent, of course! Well, you do have such a bank—its name is ‘time.’ Every morning it credits you with 86,400 seconds...every night it rules off as lost whatever of this you have failed to invest to good purposes. It carries over no balance...it allows no overdrafts each day it opens a new account for you. If you fail to use the day deposit, the loss is yours. There is no going back. There is no drawing against tomorrow. You must live in the present—on today’s deposit.

Paul urges us to be good stewards of this resource.

“Be very careful, then, how you live--not as unwise but as wise, making the most of every opportunity, because the days are evil.” (Ephesians 5:15-16)

If you and I make the most of our time, it will be because we have learned the value of a day and how to spend it wisely.

A good pledge each morning:

“This is the beginning of a new day, God has given me this day to use as I will. I can waste it or use it for good. What I do today is very important, because I am exchanging a day of my life for it. When tomorrow comes, this day will be gone forever, leaving something in its place I have traded for it. I want it to be gain, not loss; good not evil; success, not failure, in order that I shall not forget the price I paid for it.”

2.4 – hour principle

How much time do you give to God?

In the Old Testament, God gave to His people certain guiding principles concerning their resources. Everything that exists was made by God and belongs to Him. God told

them to use nine-tenths of all that He prospered them with to provide for their personal needs. They were to set aside the first one-tenth to be returned for the building of His kingdom.

Time is as much a resource as is our money. If we would learn to tithe our time like our finances, it would mean that we could give 2.4 hours a day for the building of His kingdom. This would give us the time we need to grow spiritually, and learn to win and disciple others. It would give us time for the eternal things of God so that our lives are not disapated for the temporal.

2. The second tool: TALENTS AND FINANCES

- God gave you TALENTS or abilities not only to provide for your self but to be used in building His Kingdom.

“Now to each one the manifestation of the Spirit is given for the common good.” (I Corinthians 12:7)

“Do you not know that your body is a temple of the Holy Spirit, who is in you, whom you have received from God? You are not your own; ²⁰ you were bought at a price. Therefore honor God with your body.” (I Corinthians 6:19-20)

- God gave you FINANCES for building His Kingdom by requiring that each of us return 10% of God’s provision to Him.

Leviticus 27:30, “A tithe of everything from the land whether grain from the soil Or fruit from the trees belongs to the Lord, it is Holy to the Lord”.

- Following is a warning of the danger of trying to rob God.

"Will a man rob God? Yet you rob me. "But you ask, `How do we rob you?"

"In tithes and offerings. You are under a curse--the whole nation of you-- because you are robbing me. (Malachi 3:8-9)

- Are you seeking the Kingdom of God first?

“But seek first his kingdom and his righteousness, and all these things will be given to you as well.” (Matthew 6:33)

Are you doing what God requires of you?

Are you building your kingdom or God’s?

3. The third tool ALL THE PROMISES OF GOD

The Bible has over 60,000 of God's promises to His children. The promises were given to assist us in our walk with Christ and the ministry God has called us to.

"The Lord is faithful to all His promises", Psalm 145: 13. He is not like man that He should break His promises!

"For no matter how many promises God has made, they are "Yes" in Christ".
2 Corinthians 1:20

Matthew 28:18 tells us that "All power" is Christ's and therefore He is able to fulfill all these promises.

"Then Jesus came to them and said, "All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me." (Matthew 28:18)

4. **The fourth Tool OPPORTUNITIES**

God sets multitudes of opportunities before us so that we can be involved in building His Kingdom. We must simply CAPITALIZE on these opportunities. But, we must make sure that the opportunities don't produce activity without productivity.

Opportunities to pray and read the word of God daily

Opportunities to serve God and others

Opportunities to talk to others about Christ

Opportunities to give to God and to others

Opportunities to love God and love one another

Opportunities to counsel those in need

Opportunities to plan for the future

Opportunities to dream what can be done to help build God's Kingdom.