



SEE IT

Ecclesiastes 3:12 "There is a **time** for everything, and a season for every activity under heaven. I know that there is nothing better for men than to be happy and **do good** while they live"

OBEY IT

There are three ways to manage your time in such a way that you can serve others.

- 1. Slow down.** In a recent study, 50 percent surveyed said they "want to slow down, but don't know how." How do you slow down? One way is to realize that you will never finish everything you have to do. Never! So slow down today, notice the needs of people around you. How can we practice this? When will you slow down?
- 2. Seek God.** As you slow down, make sure you include intentional times of prayer and reading of the Word, as well as times for fasting. Ask God to reveal to you hurting people that surround you, and when He does, minister to them. What's the best time of day for you to connect with God?
- 3. Set goals.** Author Brian Tracy says that for every minute you spend planning the day before, you save 10 minutes the next day. How clear are your goals? What specific goals do you have for serving others this year? This week? This decade?

SHARE IT

1. Prepare a "to-go" breakfast for the morning mailman.
2. Mail a friend some cupcakes.
3. Tape an anonymous clean funny joke to your boss' monitor.

My Prayer Today:

Lord, help me slow down and notice other's needs. Help me manage my time in such a way that I am able to minister to those around me. Amen.

My Thoughts _____



SEE IT

Proverbs 19:17 "However, there need be no poor people among you, for in the land the LORD your God is giving you to possess as your inheritance, he will richly bless you," Deuteronomy 15:4. "Whoever is kind to the poor lends to the LORD, and he will reward them for what they have done,"

OBEY IT

Today we can learn these two lessons:

- 1. Though you cannot help all the poor, you can begin by helping one.** This story encapsulates what I mean: "One morning as I walked along the seashore, I saw a young man who would bend down, then straighten up, over and over again. As I drew closer, I could see he wasn't dancing, but was searching among the debris that the night tide had brought in. He would bend down, pick up a starfish, and throw it back into the sea. I asked him what he was doing. "The tide brought these creatures up, onto the beach, and now they can't get back alone," the young man replied. "When the sun comes up, they'll die, unless they are returned to the ocean." I looked out over the vast expanse of the beach. An incalculable number of starfish covered the sand. "But there are more starfish on this beach than you can possible save before daybreak. Surely you don't expect to make a difference here," I replied. The young man paused, as if meditating on what I had said, then he bent down again, picked up a starfish, and threw it as far out into the water as he could. Then he said: "I just made a difference for that one."
- 2. Christians need to focus on helping the poor.** Rob Graham, son of Billy Graham, said, "If you do not know the poor, or are not known by the poor, you have a crisis at the center of your Christianity. To know and to be known by the poor is essential."

SHARE IT

1. Volunteer at a soup kitchen.
2. Build a home with Habitat for Humanity.
3. Give a donation to ADRA or Compassion International.

My Prayer Today:

Lord, there are poor people in my community that need you and need me. Help me bring your love to their lives today. Amen.

My Thoughts _____
