

## LESSON 7 // MANAGE YOUR RESOURCES—PART 2

**Big Idea:** To live wisely, you must understand how to manage your life and resources God's way. A vital part of this is managing your time well—taking control of your time!

How can you do this? First, you need value the gift of time. Then make critical decisions about the purpose, precepts, principles and values in your life that impact your time. Also, target the thieves of your time and deal with them. Finally, develop a time-management plan that actually works for you!

**Ecclesiastes 3:1 (NIV)** *For everything there is a season, a time for every activity under heaven.*

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

### Start Talking:

Why do you think God is so concerned about how we spend and manage our time? How much of a concern is this in your life?

### Start Thinking:

**Read Ecclesiastes 3:1 and Ephesians 5:15-16.** How do these verses speak to you about the value of your time?

**Read Proverbs 19:21 and 23:4.** Why are decisions about your purpose, the precepts and principles you live by, and the values you embrace so critical in taking control of your time?

**Read Proverbs 16:3 and 21:5.** What role does good, God-centered planning play in managing your time well?

What are some practical ways you can “make the most of every opportunity” (Ephesians 5:16) in the use of your time?

### Start Praying:

Pray that God will give you the practical wisdom to take control of your time and use it for His purposes.

### Start Doing:

Review the “five ongoing activities” of good time management: evaluate, allocate, balance, review adjust. Make an assessment this week of how you are doing in each of these areas and identify one way that you can do better. Put that into practice this week and begin to make it a consistent part of your weekly time management.