

SEIZING THE MOMENT TO LIVE OUT FAITH

'Seizing the moment to live out faith' is taking advantage of the opportunities that God presents, so He can use us to be a blessing to those around us.

KEY POINTS

- ❖ Time can be viewed as one of the most precious commodities that exist.
- ❖ There are many different sayings focused on time, such as: Time is money; There's no time like the present; Time flies when you're having fun; Time is of the essence.
- ❖ We can establish a couple of truths about time: 1) Time waits for no one; and 2) Time is not guaranteed to anyone.
- ❖ Therefore, it is of paramount importance for us to take advantage of every moment we are given.
- ❖ Every moment we have in life is a precious gift that gives us an opportunity to experience God.
- ❖ In our main scripture text, Caleb understood the importance of seizing the moment, which first involves *recognizing* the moment.
- ❖ When contemplating how to seize the moment to live out faith, we should think of it in the context of God's purposes for our lives.
- ❖ Caleb was able to discern that the children of Israel were on the threshold of accomplishing a phenomenal feat through faith in God. They were about to fulfill a portion of God's purpose for their existence.
- ❖ One of God's purposes is that the world will experience His glory through us (Matthew 5:16).
- ❖ Jesus provides His people with many opportunities to be a blessing to others: through sharing testimonies, encouraging someone, praying with someone, etc.
- ❖ As previously stated, before we can seize a moment and live out our faith, we first have to be able to recognize the existence of the moment.
- ❖ Sometimes these moments are easily recognizable; at other times they require eyes of faith (2 Corinthians 5:7). So, faith is essential for being able to recognize and *seize* the moment to *live* faith (Hebrews 1:1).
- ❖ Faith is: the *hope, belief* or *confidence* that a particular outcome that has not happened yet will take place. Faith is also the *evidence* or *assurance* that that particular outcome will come to be. Faith is why Caleb could look at what seemed to be an obstacle and interpret it as an opportunity to live out his faith.
- ❖ Seizing the moment to live faith requires *action* (James 2:14-18). Caleb understood this principle as well as the urgency of taking action in the moment. That's why he said, "Let's go at once to take the land. We can certainly conquer it!"

KEY SCRIPTURE: Numbers 13:25-33

- ❖ The children of Israel focused more on the obstacles they *perceived* were facing them rather than truly recognizing the moment that was before them.
- ❖ Perhaps you can also remember an opportunity God provided for you to live out your faith, which you did not act on.
- ❖ One of the key elements to this process of seizing the moment to live out faith is the reassurance that Jesus still speaks to His people and leads them.
- ❖ Jesus is sovereign and in complete control. He will cause His purpose to be accomplished. If you missed a moment to live out your faith, don't be discouraged.
- ❖ The main point is that Jesus is speaking to you, loves you and wants you to fulfil His purpose for your life.
- ❖ God will provide you with many opportunities to seize the moment to live out your faith.
- ❖ Because of the urgency of the times we live in, it is important that we *strive* to act immediately when we encounter opportunities to live out our faith. We need to put *action* to our faith.
- ❖ Jesus has empowered us to act on faith and to mobilize to seize the moments that we are granted, in which to live out our faith (1 John 4:4; Philippians 4:13).
- ❖ Remember, Jesus provides us with many opportunities to bless others, whether through sharing testimonies, encouraging someone, praying with someone, or in other ways.
- ❖ Let's seize the moment to live out faith and allow ourselves to be a source of blessings to others.

DISCUSSION/REFLECTION TOOLS

1. How would you define 'seizing the moment to live out faith'?
2. Discuss three reasons Caleb was so confident that Israel would have been successful in their campaign to conquer Canaan.
3. Describe a couple of ways we can overcome the fear of taking action to seize the moment to live out faith.
4. Why is acting in faith so important to accomplishing God's purpose for our lives?

PRAYER TIME

Lord, please help me to have the faith to act and seize the moments that You provide to me so that I can live out my faith.

Start-up: Can you think of a career, school, relational, athletic, or other opportunity that you missed because you didn't pursue it in time? Share.

WEEK OF SUNDAY, JANUARY 23, 2022

NOTES

Meditate as you read through/listen to this week's message. If it helps, use symbols for your notes.

✓ (Reminds me/Confirms) 💡 (New idea) 🔄 (Think about)

! (Do this) ❤️ (Speaks to my heart) 📢 (Must share)

PRAYER NEEDS/THANKSGIVINGS

Go deeper with your Life Group family.
CONNECT-REFLECT-DISSECT THE
WORD