

“Carry neither money bag, knapsack, nor sandals;
and greet no one along the road.” (Luke 10:4)

First Sunday of Apip

A Spiritual Sense of Urgency

Notable Points

- ▶ It is a common trait among successful people
- ▶ It facilitates productivity
- ▶ Urgency is not emergency
- ▶ Urgency implies time is of the essence
- ▶ Living a life of urgency is a sign of wisdom
 - ▶ “He who gathers in summer is a wise son; He who sleeps in harvest is a son who causes shame.”
(Prov 10:5)



Hindrances: Complacency

- ▶ “Blessed is that servant whom his master will find so doing when he comes. Truly, I say to you that he will make him ruler over all that he has. **But if that servant says in his heart, ‘My master is delaying his coming,’ and begins to beat the male and female servants, and to eat and drink and be drunk, the master of that servant will come on a day when he is not looking for him, and at an hour when he is not aware, and will cut him in two and appoint him his portion with the unbelievers.**” (Luke 12:43-46)
- ▶ “I know your works, that you are neither cold nor hot. I could wish you were cold or hot. So then, because you are lukewarm, and neither cold nor hot, I will vomit you out of My mouth. Because you say, ‘I am rich, have become wealthy, and have need of nothing’—and do not know that you are wretched, miserable, poor, blind, and naked.” (Rev 3:15-17)

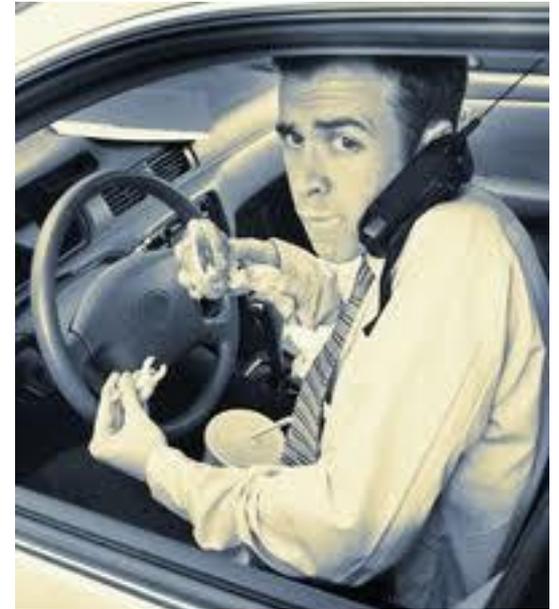


Hindrances: False Sense of Security

- ▶ David
- ▶ “It happened in the spring of the year, at the time when kings go out to battle, that David sent Joab and his servants with him, and all Israel; and they destroyed the people of Ammon and besieged Rabbah. But David remained at Jerusalem.”
(2 Sam 11:1)



Hindrances: Distractions



Developing a spiritual sense of urgency

1. Realize that time is short

- ▶ “Walk in wisdom toward those who are outside, redeeming the time.”
(Col. 4:5)

2. Remain focused on the goal

- ▶ “Brethren, I do not count myself to have apprehended; but one thing I do, forgetting those things which are behind and reaching forward to those things which are ahead, I press toward the goal for the prize of the upward call of God in Christ Jesus.” (Phil 3:13-14)



Developing a spiritual sense of urgency

3. Make yourself accountable

- ▶ “Also to You, O Lord, belongs mercy; for You render to each one according to his work.” (Ps 62:12)

4. See yourself on the losing side

- ▶ “So likewise you, when you have done all those things which you are commanded, say, ‘We are unprofitable servants. We have done what was our duty to do.’” (Lk 17:10)



Developing a spiritual sense of urgency

5. Keep the prize before you

- ▶ “I press toward the goal for the prize of the upward call of God in Christ Jesus.” (Phil 3:14)
- ▶ “Again, the kingdom of heaven is like a merchant seeking beautiful pearls, who, when he had found one pearl of great price, went and sold all that he had and bought it.” (Matt 13:45-46)



Summary

▶ Hindrances

- ▶ Complacency
- ▶ False sense of security
- ▶ Distractions

▶ Developing a spiritual sense of urgency

- ▶ Realize that time is short
- ▶ Remain focused on the goal
- ▶ Make yourself accountable
- ▶ See yourself on the losing side
- ▶ Keep the prize before you

