

How much one can learn as a student if he learns how to use his time effectively. We all need a certain amount of time for relaxation and we should get it. But many get 2 or 3 times the amount of relaxation that they need. To save your time. You are driving somewhere and you come to a red light and you say, Oh I'm in a hurry, why does that red light have to go on? It's all fretting and tense. But the man who is looking ahead sees opportunities when he has to wait; opportunities to study and think; opportunities to pray. Perhaps opportunities to review Hebrew or Greek paradigms. There are the few minutes here and there that we waste that the effective servant of God learns to use. to save his time.

Now perhaps this is not in the category with this but I ~~was~~ would be on time. I think that is tremendously important and it takes most of us in America a bit of time to learn the importance of that lesson. To be on time. We waste people's time when we are late, and we ourselves when we leave our work to do at the last minute we don't do as well as we should. It doesn't last as it should. To do things on time. If a paper is assigned for a course, --Well it isn't for three months. I've got lots of time. Why hurry? Then all the sudden we find the day is right next to us and we rush to it and dash something off. But when something is assigned, get busy and do it now. Do whatever we can immediately. To be ready to be on time, to be ahead of time. It is a part of running the race the way the Lord wants us to.

Then to develop our abilities. You try a certain type of Christian work. You try a certain line of activity and you don't seem to make much headway in it, and you say Oh well that is not for me. That's not for me. Well, God has given you certain gifts. You want to develop those gifts to the uttermost. But in those areas where you are weak, there may well come cases where a little bit of training in those areas will make a big difference in your time. What you find you don't like to do may be an important phase in Christian work. You don't need to decide that's the area God wants you to be in, though it may be.

I've known people who hated something. Detested it, did not want to do it any more. Then they have decided that I must not dishonor Him by neglecting this; I should do what I can, and try and make effort and they have become extremely outstandingly proficient in that line in which they thought they would never accomplish anything. For most of us that will not be the case, but to learn to do a little in every type of Christian work, and learn where you are weak and learn to strengthen it. Learn to run the race effectively as God wants you to. The ~~picture~~ picture Paul gives in 1 Cor. 9 of how Paul planned and how he worked in order to accomplish God's purpose. We read v. 24 about the importance of the race; the previous verses starting at v. 19 tell us, "Thou I am free and belong to no man, I make myself a slave to everyone to win as many ~~as~~ as possible."