

THURSDAY SEPTEMBER 2

NUMBERING OUR DAYS

When the Psalmist asked the Lord to teach us to number our days (Psalm 90:12), he was basically saying, "Lord, help us to remember and realize that each day is valuable and precious. Help us to make the most of each and every day You give."

When I was a child and even into my teen and young adult years, I can't say I considered each day as important and valuable. Particularly when I wasn't in the right relationship with the Lord, my days were for myself and what I may have wanted to do or other duties that required my time. Add to this mix, how often in what I was doing was simply wasting the gift of time God was giving to me. I hate to think! However, as I now grow in years and even my relationship with my Father, I can 100% agree with the heart of what this Psalmist was saying. Each day is a gift from God and I need to make the most of it for Him. "This is the day that the Lord has made. I will rejoice and be glad in it." (Psalm 118:24)

No matter our age, we need to consider our own frailty, the shortness and uncertainty of life. As part of the training of our children, even in the areas of discipleship we need to teach that each day is a gift from God and we need to consider what ways He wants us to use our days in a manner that is pleasing to Him.

As we submit ourselves to Him each day, there should be a submitting of our time for Him to guide and direct our day as He desires. I have found that the word "flexible" is important. I may have chores and other things in mind for my day, but He may bring something else into that day which is His priority over mine. We are gaining a heart of wisdom when we approach our days in that manner.

With this in mind and knowing we will give an account before our Judge regarding our days, Paul also gives us an exhortation. "Pay careful attention, then, to how you walk - not as unwise people but as wise - making the most of the time, because the days are evil. So don't be foolish, but understand what the Lord's will is." (Ephesians 5:15-17 HCSB) We must make the right use of every opportunity, keeping our standards high and doing good as our Heavenly Father directs. Redeem the time!