

The Call-Grasping God's Timing

Jesus replied, "Go into the city to a certain man and tell him, 'The Teacher says: My appointed time is near. I am going to celebrate the Passover with my disciples at your house.'" [Matthew 26:18](#)

It was just before the Passover Feast. Jesus knew that the time had come for him to leave this world and go to the Father. Having loved his own who were in the world, he now showed them the full extent of his love. [John 13:1](#)

Calling is an essential part of the sense of timing that characterizes a successful life. –Os Guinness

1. Jesus had an acute sense for the timing of his ministry. Do you think it is important that we also have an understanding of the time in which we live and the events in our lives?

Why, you do not even know what will happen tomorrow. What is your life? You are a mist that appears for a little while and then vanishes. James 4:14

My times are in your hands Psalm 31:15

Gods timing is rarely our timing. But far better than we do, he numbers our days and knows our moments and hours. Our task is to trust. –Os Guinness

2. How are we to know God's timing for our lives? Are we supposed to know his exact timing?

4 Then the word of the LORD came to him: "This man will not be your heir, but a son coming from your own body will be your heir." 5 He took him outside and said, "Look up at the heavens and count the stars—if indeed you can count them." Then he said to him, "So shall your offspring be."

Now Sarai, Abram's wife, had borne him no children. But she had an Egyptian maidservant named Hagar; 2 so she said to Abram, "The LORD has kept me from having children. Go, sleep with my maidservant; perhaps I can build a family through her." Sarai his wife took her Egyptian maidservant Hagar and gave her to her husband to be his wife. 4 He slept with Hagar, and she conceived. When she knew she was pregnant, she began to despise her mistress. Genesis 15:4-5, 16:1-4

3. In what way did Abraham and Sarah take God's timing into their own hands? In what ways do you push for your own timeliness in your calling?

Since ancient times no one has heard, no ear has perceived, no eye has seen any God besides you, who acts on behalf of those who wait for him. Jer 64:4 My time has not yet come-Jesus.

There are many ways of pursuing timeliness apart from following Christ-clairvoyance, fortunetelling, futurism, public relations, marketing, to name a few.-Os Guinness

4. Are you waiting on God to fulfill important events in your life? Do you see waiting as a passive activity or a preparatory period?

You also must be ready, because the Son of Man will come at an hour when you do not expect him. Luke 12:40

Readiness for followers of Christ should be posed to respond to his slightest word or sign.-Os Guinness

5. Have you been called on to act decisively and obediently at a time when you didn't feel ready? How did you respond?

Ecclesiastes 3:1-There is a time for everything, and a season for every activity under heaven.

6. The word for time in Greek is either chronos, which simply refers to a duration of time, or kairos, which refers to a season and/or opportunity. Christ referred to time as kairos. In what season of your life are you currently? What do you think the opportunity is for this season?

Discussion Guidelines:

1. Allow everyone a chance to speak. If you are bursting with ideas and tend to share a lot – great – but occasionally pause a bit before you go, sometimes the quieter ones are just waiting for their chance and they need a little space before they go.
2. Respect the opinions of others, and refrain from giving advice.
3. Keep discussion focused on the material being studied.
4. Maintain the confidentiality of personal things shared within the group.

The Haven mission statement is:

To empower artists to influence the culture for Christ.