

PUTTING OFF PROCRASTINATION – LUKE 9:59-62

SERIES: RESILIENCE IN THE LIFE OF THE BELIEVER

⁵⁹ He said to another man, "Follow me." But the man replied, "Lord, first let me go and bury my father." ⁶⁰ Jesus said to him, "Let the dead bury their own dead, but you go and proclaim the kingdom of God." **Luke 9:59-60 (NIV)**

➤ The Bible's most dangerous word: *"Tomorrow."*

1. THE THIEF OF TIME

✓ Do for yourself

✓ Regret

✓ Later

A. Procrastination Robs You of Opportunities for Service

⁶¹ Another also said, I will follow You, Lord, *and* become Your disciple *and* side with Your party; but let me first say good-bye to those at my home. ⁶² Jesus said to him, No one who puts his hand to the plow and looks back [to the things behind] is fit for the kingdom of God. **Luke 9:61-62 (AMP)**

➤ *"The tyranny of the urgent"*

⁴⁴ "The Kingdom of heaven is like this. A man happens to find a treasure hidden in a field. He covers it up again, and is so happy that he goes and sells everything he has, and then goes back and buys that field. ⁴⁵ "Also, the Kingdom of heaven is like this. A man is looking for fine pearls, ⁴⁶ and when he finds one that is unusually fine, he goes and sells everything he has, and buys that pearl.

Matthew 13:44-46 (TEV)

B. Procrastination Robs You of Opportunities to be Successful

⁶ "It was already midnight when the cry rang out, 'Here is the bridegroom! Come and meet him!'" ⁷ The ten young women woke up and trimmed their lamps. ⁸ Then the foolish ones said to the wise ones, 'Let us have some of your oil, because our lamps are going out.' ⁹ 'No, indeed,' the wise ones answered, 'there is not enough for you and for us. Go to the store and buy some for yourselves.' ¹⁰ So the foolish ones went off to buy some oil; and while they were gone, the bridegroom arrived. The five who were ready went in with him to the wedding feast, and the door was closed. **Matthew 25:6-10 (TEV)**

C. Procrastination Robs You of the Opportunity for Salvation

²⁴ After some days Felix came with his wife Drusilla, who was Jewish, and he sent for Paul and heard him speak about faith in Christ Jesus. ²⁵ And as he reasoned about righteousness and self-control and the coming judgment, Felix was alarmed and said, "Go away for the present. When I get an opportunity I will summon you."

Acts 24:24-25 (ESV)

✓ ***When the voice of God calls to you, never make the mistake of counting on tomorrow***

2. TWO BIG PROBLEMS WITH PROCRASTINATION

A. Procrastination Does Not Consider the Uncertainty of Life

¹ Do not boast about tomorrow, for you do not know what a day may bring. **Proverbs 27:1 (ESV)**

¹³ Come now, you who say, "Today or tomorrow we will go into such and such a town and spend a year there and trade and make a profit"— ¹⁴ yet you do not know what tomorrow will bring. What is your life? For you are a mist that appears for a little time and then vanishes. **James 4:13-14 (ESV)**

¹³ But encourage one another daily, as long as it is called Today, so that none of you may be hardened by sin's deceitfulness. **Hebrews 3:13 (NIV)**

B. Procrastination Does Not Consider the Uniqueness of Conviction

⁶ Seek the LORD while he may be found; call on him while he is near. **Isaiah 55:6 (NIV)**

⁶⁰ I hasten and do not delay to keep your commandments. **Psalms 119:60 (ESV)**

¹ Remember also your Creator in the days of your youth, before the evil days come and the years draw near of which you will say, "I have no pleasure in them"; **Ecclesiastes 12:1 (ESV)**