186—Jesus Made Time

Luke 17:11-19

Introduction: One of the biggest excuses for a lack of church involvement is "I don't have time."

Many of us are busy and live fast-paced lives. Yet, we will still often make time for the things we want to do. Imagine how busy Jesus must have been.

He was the world's greatest doctor.

He was the world's wisest philosopher.

He was the world's Savior!

Yet, Jesus made time for some of the things we often neglect.

I. Jesus Made Time for Nature

A. Matthew 5:26, 28, "Look at the birds of the air: they neither sow nor reap nor gather into barns, and yet your heavenly Father feeds them. Are you not of more value than they?

28 And why are you anxious about clothing? Consider the lilies of the field, how they grow: they neither toil nor spin..."

- B. Paul saw the natural world as proof saying, "For since the creation of the world His invisible attributes are clearly seen, being understood by the things that are made, even His eternal power and Godhead, so that they are without excuse" (Romans 1:20).
- C. Do you take the time to enjoy, observe and learn from God's creation?

II. Jesus Made Time for the Sick

- A. Mark 1:30-31, "But Simon's wife's mother lay sick with a fever, and they told Him about her at once. So He came and took her by the hand and lifted her up, and immediately the fever left her. And she served them."
- B. Do you take time to care for our sick and their needs...
 - 1. It might be physical (cooking, cleaning, doctor's visits).
 - 2. It might be emotional (calls, cards, conversation).
 - 3. It might be spiritual (prayers, encouragement, study).
- C. Jesus took the time to fill a need and see to others who were suffering.

III. Jesus Made Time for Bible Study

- A. He was a regular at Sabbath services, ""So He came to Nazareth, where He had been brought up. And as His custom, He went into the synagogue on the Sabbath day, and stood up to read" (Luke 4:16).
 - 1. The term "custom" is defined by Strong's as, "A primary verb; to be used (by habit or conventionality); neuter perfect participle usage: be custom (manner, wont)."
 - 2. Is study and worship on the Lord's Day a "custom" for you or just a random, occurrence?
- B. Yet, Jesus also made time to study with others in their homes as they had questions—such as what occurs in the home of Mary and Martha (Luke 10:38-42).

IV. Jesus Made Time to Rest

A. Mark 6:30-31, "Then the apostles gathered to Jesus and told Him all things, both what they had done and what they had taught. And He said to them, 'Come aside by yourselves to a deserted place and rest for a

while.' For there were many coming and going, and they did not have time to eat. So they departed to a deserted place in a boat by themselves."

B. Through the example of Jesus, we see even the Lord needed to get away from it all from time to time!

V. Jesus Made Time for Children

- A. Some of the disciples of Jesus looked at children as if they were less important.
- B. Jesus corrects their thinking in Mark 10:13-16, "Then they brought little children to Him, that He might touch them; but the disciples rebuked those who brought them. But when Jesus saw it, He was greatly displeased and said to them, 'Let the little children come to Me, and do not forbid them; for of such is the kingdom of God. Assuredly, I say to you, whoever does not receive the kingdom of God as a little child will by no means enter it.' And He took them up in His arms, laid His hands on them, and blessed them."

VI. Jesus Made Time to Rejoice at a Wedding

- A. John 2:1-2 says, "On the third day there was a wedding in Cana of Galilee, and the mother of Jesus was there. Now both Jesus and His disciples were invited to the wedding."
- B. The rest of the context reveals Jesus attended and helped with the wedding.
- C. Sometimes, it is important to take time out of our schedules to show our happiness for others.
 - 1. New babies, baby showers, etc.
 - 2. New houses, housewarming parties...
 - 3. Wedding showers, weddings, etc.
 - 4. Holiday get-togethers, pitch-ins, etc.
- D. Some seem disinterested by lack of participation and it can be discouraging.

VII. Jesus Made Time to Weep With Those Who Were Grieving

- A. Luke 7:11-17, "Soon afterward he went to a town called Nain, and his disciples and a great crowd went with him. 12 As he drew near to the gate of the town, behold, a man who had died was being carried out, the only son of his mother, and she was a widow, and a considerable crowd from the town was with her. 13 And when the Lord saw her, he had compassion on her and said to her, "Do not weep." 14 Then he came up and touched the bier, and the bearers stood still. And he said, "Young man, I say to you, arise." 15 And the dead man sat up and began to speak, and Jesus gave him to his mother. 16 Fear seized them all, and they glorified God, saying, "A great prophet has arisen among us!" and "God has visited his people!" 17 And this report about him spread through the whole of Judea and all the surrounding country."
 - 1. Romans 12:15 also instructs Christians to "weep with those who weep."
 - 2. Some only want to be around the fun, but we must also help those in sorrow.
- B. He noticed Mary and Martha in the loss of their brother too (John 11:30-36; Cp. James 1:25-27).

<u>Conclusion</u>: Are you "redeeming the time" wisely (Ephesians 5:16)?