

Living beyond limits

1. Time is limited. Use it 14:1-2

Teach us to number our days carefully so that we may develop wisdom in our hearts. Psalm 90:12

2. Money is limited. Use it 14:3-9

Each one must give as you have decided in your heart, not reluctantly, nor under compulsion, for God loves a cheerful giver. 2 Corinthians 9:7

We ought to gain all we can gain, but this it is certain we ought not to do; we ought not to gain money at the expense of life, nor at the expense of our health... Having, First, gained all you can, and, Secondly saved all you can, Then give all you can. John Wesley, 1772

Do all the good you can. By all the means you can. In all the ways you can. In all the places you can. At all the times you can. To all the people you can. As long as ever you can. John Wesley

1. Opportunity is unlimited. Use it 14:7-9

On the first day of every week, each one of you should set aside a sum of money in keeping with your income, saving it up, so that when I come no collections will have to be made. 1 Corinthians 16:2

1. Evil is unlimited. Avoid it 14:10-11

The love of money is a root of all kinds of evil. Some people, craving for money, have wandered from the Faith and pierced themselves with many griefs. 1 Timothy 6:10

You cannot serve both God and money. Matthew 6:24

The ACTS of prayer, plus needs for which to seek for answers.

A. Adoration; C. Confession; T. Thanksgiving; S. Seeking

For personal reflection, or group discussion

1. List some advantages and disadvantages of not knowing how long you will live. If you knew you had only 48 hours, what would you do?
2. How is it possible to number our days (Psalm 90:12)? Why do you think this verse makes it a priority to gain wisdom in our hearts?
3. Read Mark 14:4-6. What emotions are hinted at? Why do you think those emotions ran so strongly?
4. Read 2 Corinthians 9:6-11. What should we remember, and why (v6)? How does God want us to give (v7)? Since God owns everything, and can do anything, why do we need to give at all?
5. What are some helpful principles for deciding where to give; and how much to give? How do those principles compare with 1 Cor.16:1-2?
6. It is often said, 'Money is the root of all evil'. Is that true (read 1 Tim. 6:10)? How does the love in this verse lead to grief?
7. Can there ever be a rich Christian? How do the John Wesley quotes (overleaf) help?