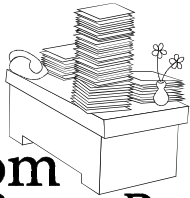


# MT ZION UMC

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JANUARY 2012 NEWSLETTER



**From  
the Pastors Desk**

## How Much Time Do You Need To Improve Your Life?

I've read that there is one thing all people have in common—we all have the same number of hours in each day! I know that some of us are busier than others, yet everyone lives the same calendar—24 hours a day, 7 days a week, 365 days a year. The most important question is, “What will you do with the time you have?”

I suggest you take time to think about what you do, and why you do it. After careful reflection, you may find you need to spend more time in religious study. Or you may need to take time to exercise or spend more time with family and friends. When you feel like you “don't have enough time,” remember, **YOU HAVE THE SAME NUMBER OF HOURS IN EACH DAY AS EVERYONE ELSE!**

This year, decide that some things are simply too important to neglect. In this sense, time is a lot like a financial budget. Every family and organization has to decide how to spend available money based on “needs” and “wants.” The most important items (needs) get paid first, and those things that are less important (wants) are placed lower on the list. And, just as in a financial budget, you should “live within your means.” This means that you should allocate your time to make sure you do the most important things and be willing to say “no” to things that are less important. Doing this will help relieve the guilt feelings that arise when we try to do more things than we can. This is the reason why you should make every effort to do the most important things first.

Jesus tells his disciples to seek first God's kingdom and God's righteousness, and then God will see to it that the things you need in your life are taken care of (see the Gospel of Matthew, chapter 6). The key to receiving God's blessing is to make God's priorities your priorities.

Blessings and Peace,  
Pastor Craig

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**May God help us use our  
time wisely in 2012!**

Do you have an event or article for our next newsletter? Contact Heather Ulrich, (336) 996-7745, or [ulrich\\_heather@hotmail.com](mailto:ulrich_heather@hotmail.com)