

## LIFE LESSONS – Making It Live

Pastor David Welsh | “Occupy/Prayer & Personnel” | Luke 6:12-19 | Jan. 14-15, 2012

**What do you occupy your time with?** In this fast paced world we fill our time with many things; from sporting events to work meetings to mindless things like sitting in front of the TV. Let’s be honest, most of us occupy (fill rather) our time with things that rust and tarnish. Share some of the things that you fill your spare time with. Be Honest! Are those things keeping you from God’s glory or are they giving Him the glory?

**Discuss:** Down time is required, in fact it is commanded. But don’t let your downtime keep you from God’s calling. Read: [Luke 19:13](#). Share what you think it means to “Occupy”

**How much time do you generally devote to prayer?** When your heart breaks, when the bills pile up and the paycheck is gone, when troubles come crashing in and the enemy is on attack, how do you spend your time? Read: [Luke 6:12](#). **Discuss:** Do you pray often? Are your prayers self-fulfilling or God seeking? Remember that the enemy will do all he can to come in and destroy your walk with the Heavenly Father. In fact, that is his mission. Read: [Philippians 4:6](#). Share some ways that we all could spend more time in prayer and make the enemy’s mission impossible.

**What position do you take in prayer?** How many of us still fall to our knees as we humble ourselves before the Lord? Many of us settle into a supine position, stretch out to relax as we enter into prayer and fall fast asleep instead. **Discuss** how the enemy creates many interruptions by filling out time and wearing us down to the point of exhaustion and how he uses these to destroy our prayer life. Read: [1 Peter 5:8-9](#). **Discuss** how we can be confident that when we call on Jesus. How can we prevent life’s interruptions from destroying our relationship with the Lord? Read [1 John 5:14-15](#).

**Do you think you are selfish?** Take a deep breath...the answer is yes. We all are. With the exception of Jesus, we have all been selfish, greedy, ugly, prideful, wavered in our faith. Read: [Romans 3: 23-26](#) and **discuss:** We are cleansed through Christ redemption, by the Grace of God! When we humble ourselves in prayer confessing that we are sinners, He is merciful and forgiving. He calls us to that place of confession so He can give us forgiveness. His grace overcomes any flaw, any mistake, and any past sin. He creates something useful and beautiful out of those of us who are flawed. He makes us new. Read: [2 Corinthians 5:17](#).

**What is your mission in life?** Each day we wake up, we probably have a list. Some of us keep a mental list, others keep a paper list and we check things off as we go. Share how witnessing of Jesus’ love and mercy is on your list. **Discuss:** We have a duty as Christians; a mission to share the gospel. Read: [Matthew 28:16-20](#). Share why we are to share the good news with love and mercy to those who are in need of a Savior. Share how you will share your story; the story of how Jesus saved you.

*Written by Misty Miller*