

*How do I practice good stewardship?*

**“I make the most of the time  
God has given me.”**

*What does God say?*

**“So be careful how you live.  
Don't live like fools, but like  
those who are wise. Make the  
most of every opportunity.”**

Ephesians 5:15-16 (NLT)

# Winter 2020-21 CT: 'I Am a Steward of Time' Senior Version

**How do I practice good stewardship?**

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**What does God say?** Ephesians 5:15-16 (NLT):

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**2021 Spring**

**STEWARDSHIP**

March 8 - May 29

Closed:

\*Mar. 1st, Spring Staff Training

Saturday, May 22nd: Starwatch!

May 31st, Memorial Day

March 2021						
Su	M	Tu	W	Th	F	Sa
	4	2	3	4	5	6
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28	29	30	31			

April 2021						
Su	M	Tu	W	Th	F	Sa
				1	2	3
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	30	

May 2021						
Su	M	Tu	W	Th	F	Sa
						1
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
30	31					

## Main Points Each Week:

- Lesson 1: I will be held accountable for how well I steward the gift of time.
- Lesson 2: I will think ahead about the outcomes of my choices regarding the use of my time.
- Lesson 3: When I steward my time wisely, I receive rewards I can see, and rewards I can't see.
- Lesson 4: God gives us clues regarding the best use of our time; our job is to notice them.
- Lesson 5: I will discover the best ways to spend my time by studying God's word, the Bible.
- Lesson 6: I will regularly evaluate how I steward my time so I store up things of lasting value.
- Lesson 7: I will seek God's wisdom to know when it's time for work and when it's time for play.
- Lesson 8: I will diligently seek God's wisdom knowing that He will give me more and more.
- Lesson 9: Choosing to spend time on things I don't like can bring unexpected rewards.
- Lesson 10: Since God is the master of my time, He may ask me to spend it on something unusual.
- Lesson 11: I can't recover time I wasted, but NOW is the time I can start making better choices.
- Lesson 12: I will be evaluated by God on my stewardship of time. Will He say WELL DONE?

Week 7 requires visuals

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*"I make the most of the time God has given me."*

## What does God say? Ephesians 5:15-16 (NLT):

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## Week 1: Mar 8-13

### 1. Introduce declaration & verse

- a. We are studying stewardship this spring, especially stewardship of our time. We have a new character declaration. Memorizing our declaration can help you become a man or woman of true character by training your heart to think true thoughts.
  - i. *Proverbs 4:23 "Guard your heart above all else, for it is the source of life." (HCSB)*

### 2. Lead-in: Do you know what a steward is? (answers) A steward is someone who takes care of things that belong to someone else. The Bible tells us, *"The earth is the Lord's, and all that is in it,"* (Psalm 24:1) and that includes unseen things, like time. God wants us to make the most of the time He has allotted for us in this life. He allows us to choose how we will spend our time and sends us opportunities to make the most of that time.

### 3. Share today's main point:

**Lesson 1: I will be held accountable for how well I steward the gift of time.**

### 4. Listen to Chapter 1 of story: *The Leather Bracelet*

### 5. Questions (Choose one or more that best fits your class. \*Discussion idea for older students)

- a. What important message is this movie telling all 8-year-olds? (*From now on, they are going to be held more responsible for choosing the best use of their time until they become fully accountable at age 18.*)
- b. What is the purpose of the gold timepiece? (*To collect and save images of time well spent and delete all others.*)
- c. How much time has been given to each person in his time account? (*No one knows!*)
- d. What final command does the Voice give and why do think it ends with this? (*"Learn the secret of the red marker." Listen to their thoughts regarding why without revealing answers.*)
- e. \*If you knew how much time was allotted to you here on earth, would it change how you choose to spend that time? Why do you think God did not make known to us how much time we have here? (*Discussion starters! No definitive answers. A possible answer for the second one: Humans are born as sinners. They are self-centered and tend to choose what they think is best for themselves. Most people would put off considering their need for the Savior, Jesus, thinking they will spend their time having all the 'fun' they want first and think about eternity later. God desires a relationship with us now so we can live an amazing life during our entire stay on earth through knowing Him. Why would I want to go live forever with someone I don't even know or love? Knowing God through Jesus NOW is the only way to experience a meaningful life here and enjoy eternity to the fullest.*)

### 6. Application

- a. Start making the most of your time right now by using your minutes on each event today practicing what your coach tells you without getting distracted OR distracting others!

### 7. Wrap Up:

- a. Repeat together: ***I will be held accountable for how well I steward the gift of time.***

## Planning:

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## How do I practice good stewardship?

*"I make the most of the time God has given me."*

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## Week 2: Mar 15-20

### 1. Practice declaration & verse together

2. **Lead-in:** Have you ever done something before you thought about what might happen, then ended up getting in trouble for it? Did your parents say, "You should have thought about that beforehand"?

a. *Coach example:*

3. Share today's main point:

**Lesson 2: I will think ahead about the outcomes of my choices regarding the use of my time.**

4. **Short review:** Josh, Rudy and all 8-year-olds have just attended the movie *NOW Is the Time* and received bracelets that will record and save time well spent. Wasted time is deleted. An unknown amount of time is in each account. Now that they turned 8, they will be responsible for how they use their time. When they turn 18, they will be evaluated on how well they did.

### 5. Listen to Chapter 2 of story: *Creepy...but Cool*

### 6. Questions (Choose one or more that best fits your class. \*Older students)

a. What does Rudy think of the movie? (*Boring!*)

b. What does Josh think? (*He wonders what would happen to someone who spent all their time only playing games.*)

c. What does Josh tell his dad he thought about the movie? (*It was creepy, but cool too.*)

d. The boys watched the same movie, but they had different responses afterward. Why do you think their responses differed? (*Rudy: movie was boring. He is focusing on his life now and wants excitement. Josh: He is asking questions and wonders what might happen in the future - he is thinking ahead.*)

e. \*Both boys are 8 years old. Based on what you know so far, how would you describe each of them? (*Rudy enjoys entertainment and excitement; may not think too deeply about things; seems to have a reputation as a gamer. Josh wonders and questions things; has priorities straight - choosing his chores over the ice cream invite; a thinker - can give his dad two descriptive words to express his thoughts rather than saying 'I don't know' or 'It was ok.'*)

7. **Truth:** Another verse in the Bible tells us this:

*"Teach us to use wisely all the time we have."* Psalm 90:12 (CEV)

### 8. Application

a. NOW is the time to decide to listen carefully and do everything your coach will tell you before you start class today, because tonight or tomorrow will be too late! You will improve much faster if you use your time wisely when you have the opportunity - which is NOW!

### 9. Wrap Up

a. Repeat together: ***I will think ahead about the outcomes of my choices regarding the use of my time.***

## Planning:

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## What does God say? Ephesians 5:15-16 (NLT):

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## Week 3: Mar 22-27

### 1. Practice declaration & verse together

2. **Lead-in:** Let's say you had a choice between a \$100 gift card to Dairy Queen OR a \$100 gift card to buy 10 baby chicks from a local farm. Which would you choose?

3. Share today's main point:

**Lesson 3: *When I steward my time wisely, I receive rewards I can see, and rewards I can't see.***

4. **Short review:** After the movie lets out, a group of classmates gather, comparing bracelets and talking. Rudy defends himself as a gamer and states "Yeah, well at least they're exciting," then declares the movie was BORRRRING!" Josh silently wonders what would happen if someone spent all their time playing video games. He later tells his dad the movie was creepy but also cool.

### 5. Listen to Chapter 3 of story: *Time and Money*

### 6. Questions (Choose one or more that best fits your class. \*Older students)

- What did Josh think was creepy about the movie? (*The Voice echoed; he felt like he was on another planet; the music reminded him of people talking to each other underwater.*)
- How did Dad describe time? (*"Time is a powerful gift. It's a little bit like money. You get a certain amount to spend every day."*)
- What things did Dad tell Josh he would gain if he spent his time wisely? (*Things he could see and hidden things, like a life full of great friends. "You'll learn what things leave you feeling full of joy and meaning and what things leave you feeling empty and useless."*)
- \*Help students become more aware of how they feel after spending their time in a variety of ways. Ask: How do you feel after you: help another gymnast get a skill for the first time; watch a scary movie; clean the kitchen for your mom; earn 1st place on something you put lots of effort into, etc. What leaves you feeling like you did something meaningful and lasting? Empty, worried, anxious...?

### 7. Application

- Every night before you go to sleep, think about your day. Ask yourself, "If I had a bracelet like Josh, did it save any images on it today?" Why or why not? This will help you learn what things are meaningful and lasting.

### 8. Wrap Up

- Repeat together: ***When I steward my time wisely, I receive rewards I can see, and rewards I can't see.***

## Planning:

Stewardship in my students looks like: \_\_\_\_\_

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## Week 4: Mar 29 - Apr 3

### 1. Practice declaration & verse together

### 2. Lead-in: The Box - see supplement.

### 3. Share today's main point:

**LESSON 4: God gives us clues regarding the best use of our time; our job is to notice them.**

### 4. Short review: Dad compared time to money. He told Josh you get a certain amount to spend every day. Choose carefully, and you will gain things you can see and hidden things, like a life full of great friends. Some things add lasting meaning and others rob you of meaning. "YOUR time zone" means Josh must now own his choices of how he stewards his time.

### 5. Listen to Chapter 4 of story: *The Red Marker*

### 6. Questions (Choose one or more that best fits your class. \*Older students)

- What was Josh thinking about that caused him to worry? (*The Voice said not to let his time go to zero but he didn't know how much time was on it to start.*)
- When Josh played the DVD, what was different about it? (*No Voice; the red marker was not moving at all.*)
- What did Rudy tell Josh when he asked him if he had watched his DVD? (*"Why would I watch a boring movie twice in one day? Are you crazy?"*)
- Think about what each boy is doing after watching the movie that day. Which one do you think you are more like? (*No right answers!*)
- \*One significant difference between Josh and Rudy is that Josh asks questions. Discuss this quote: "The key to wisdom is this – constant and frequent questioning; for by doubting we are led to question, by questioning we arrive at the truth." – Peter Abelard (10th century medieval French scholastic philosopher, leading logician, theologian, teacher, musician, composer, and poet.) *Suggested questions: Can you find meaning for your life apart from asking questions? Where does meaning come from? What happens to people who don't find meaning?*

### 7. Application

- God wants us to be curious about life. The Bible is full of clues that help us discover truths about storing up treasures that last.
- Asking questions is good use of your time. Not giving up until you find answers will make you wiser. Josh wants to spend his time well, so he keeps asking questions.

### 8. Wrap Up

- Repeat together: **God gives us clues regarding the best use of our time; our job is to notice them.**

## Planning:

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## Week 5: Apr 5-10

### 1. Practice declaration & verse together

2. **Lead-in:** Have any of you ever chosen to help someone who was having a hard time with something *without* being told to do so? (*Take answers and/or share your own story.*)

3. Share today's main point:

**Lesson 5: I will discover the best ways to spend my time by studying God's word, the Bible.**

4. **Short review:** Josh is asking questions and seeking answers! *How can I know the amount of time left in my account? Why is the marker not moving on my DVD?* Rudy's marker isn't moving either. *Learn the secret of the red marker* the Voice said at the end of the movie. Josh decides to study the red marker carefully while Rudy continues with his X-Box game.

### 5. Listen to Chapter 5 of story: *Moving Up*

### 6. Questions (Choose one or more that best fits your class.)

- What news did Josh receive Saturday morning? (*His neighbor Zack was taken to the hospital.*)
- How does Josh help? (*He immediately checks on Seymore and cares for him till Zack returns.*)
- What does Dad tell Josh after family devotions? (*He's very happy about Josh's care; loving others means helping others, which pleases God.*)
- What surprise did Josh find when he watched the DVD that night? (*The marker had moved up!*)
- Do you think the gold timepiece stored or deleted the images it captured of Josh this weekend?
- \*By reading the books of Matthew, Mark, Luke and John, you will find dozens of examples of how Jesus spent His time here on earth. Luke 10:27, the verse Josh's dad read, is clear regarding how we should spend our time: Simply stated, *Love God with your whole being and your neighbor as yourself.* You will store up lasting treasure in heaven every time you do so. How can you love God with your heart? Your soul? Your mind? Your strength? And how you can love others in your own life this week?

7. **Truth:** Another verse in the Bible tells us this:

- "Help me understand how your rules direct me to live. Then I may think deeply about the wonderful things you have done."* Psalm 119:27 NIRV

### 8. Application

- It is ALWAYS good use of your time to read, memorize, and think of ways to apply God's word! This is loving God with your mind.

### 9. Wrap Up

- Repeat together: ***I will discover the best ways to spend my time by studying God's word, the Bible.***

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## Week 6: Apr 12-17

### 1. Practice declaration & verse together

2. **Lead-in:** Think about your day. Name some things you did that you think would be saved in your gold timepiece if you had one. (*You can also suggest things and then ask if they thought they were save-worthy or not.*)

3. Share today's main point:

### Lesson 6: *I will regularly evaluate how I spend my time so I store up things of lasting value.*

4. **Short review:** Zack, Josh's neighbor, had been taken to the hospital. Josh was worried about Seymore, Zack's dog, so he spent the weekend taking care of him until Zack came home on Sunday night. Josh's parents let him know how happy they were and told him that *loving others means helping others, which pleases God*. That same night, he discovered his red marker had moved up.

### 5. Listen to Chapter 6 of story: *Moving Down*

### 6. Questions (Choose one or more that best fits your class. Older students)

- How does Rudy respond when Josh tells him to look at his DVD? (*He asks, "which one?"; thinks Josh is crazy for being so interested in such a boring movie.*)
- What is Rudy's reaction when he sees his red marker? (*"WHOA!"; he views it like he does his video games - life is way down and he's shocked.*)
- As time passes, what happens to the kids' interest in the movie and DVD? (*For many it fades as they go back to their busy lives; for others they stay curious and take time to figure out the mystery of the red marker.*)
- Why do you think the marker jumped up when Josh declared, "I'm going to study every single clip in this movie until I can figure out what is going on, no matter how long it takes me!" (*Take answers. If no one shares, say, "Well...I guess we'll have to wait and see!"*)
- \*If you want to make the most of your time, you must be able to determine what is most important from what is least important. Try a rating system:

### 7. Application

- You must evaluate - or think carefully about - what you are spending your time on NOW if you want to do important, meaningful work when you are older.
- What skill do you want to learn next in gymnastics? How will you use your time *today* in class to help you move closer to getting it?

### 8. Wrap Up

- Repeat together: *I will regularly evaluate how I spend my time so I store up things of lasting value.*

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## Week 7: Apr 19-24

### 1. Practice declaration & verse together

2. **Lead-in:** Show supplement 7a. Ask, "Who's in charge here?" Then show 7b. "Who's in charge here?" After they answer, ask: "How would you feel if this could really happen?"

3. Share today's main point:

**Lesson 7: I will seek God's wisdom to know when it's time for work and when it's time for play.**

4. **Short review:** Rudy is surprised to find his red maker has moved down quite a lot. At first all the kids are interested in what their markers are doing, but after a few months, their interest fades. Some, however, do keep searching for answers. After two years, Josh declares that he will keep searching "no matter how long it takes me!" His marker instantly moves up!

5. Listen to Chapter 7 of story: *The Young Man*

6. Questions (Choose one or more that best fits your class. \*Older students)

- What did Josh eventually notice after watching the movie so many times? (*A certain person, a young man, appeared throughout the movie.*)
- Why did Josh choose to watch Lily's movie with her? (*He remembered his own excitement when he was 8.*)
- What advice did he give Lily? (*"Always remind yourself the gold piece is collecting images. How many of those images will be stored for your evaluation at 18?"*)
- What happened after Josh agreed to play Fortnite with Rudy? (*He got so involved, he lost track of time, didn't get to his homework, shouted at Lily, and was late meeting his parents.*)
- \*"Play" comes in many forms. Some types are constructive and healthy, while others are destructive, even harmful. Discussion options: Will the gold piece save any images of time spent playing? Define "healthy" vs "harmful" play. What types of play leave you feeling satisfied? Empty?

7. **Truth:** Another verse in the Bible tells us this:

*"For everything there is a season, a time for every activity under heaven."* Ecclesiastes 3:1 NLT

8. **Application**

- Show 7c and 7d. Ask, "Which one best represents who's master in your life?"
- Making the most of your time requires you to be the master over the time you spend on your devices and on social media.
- Talk with your parents and set reasonable limits. Have them check up on you!
- You are either the Master OR the Slave of your devices. What will you choose?

9. **Wrap Up**

- Repeat together: ***I will seek God's wisdom to know when it's time for work and when it's time for play.***

## Planning:

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## Week 8: Apr 26 - May 1

1. Practice declaration & verse together
2. Lead-in: Who can explain what it means to be diligent? (*Simple definition: working hard until the job is done.*)
3. Share today's main point:  
**Lesson 8: I will diligently seek God's wisdom knowing that He will give me more and more.**
4. Short review: Josh discovers a certain young man appears throughout the DVD. Lily turned 8 and received her bracelet and Josh watched her DVD with her to make her happy. Rudy calls and Josh agrees to play an hour of Fortnite with him, but he gets too involved and goes way over time. He shouts at Lily and is late meeting his parents
5. Listen to Chapter 8 of story: **"I KNOW THE SECRET!"**
6. Questions (Choose one or more that best fits your class)
  - a. What troubles Josh about the Bible verse he finds and reads? (*It doesn't seem fair to give to those who already have stuff and to take away from those who don't have much.*)
  - b. What did the marker do when the young man was at the City Mission? (*Moved up.*)
  - c. What did the marker do when he ignored the mom at the post office? (*It moved down.*)
  - d. Do you know what the secret is? (*Take answers, but let the next chapter explain the full meaning.*)
  - e. \*Many times, making the most of everything God has given us takes a long time. We may think we are wasting time, but in reality, we are laying a foundation necessary for far greater accomplishments. Time does not only apply to hours in the day, but to seasons of our lives. One of the qualities of a fool is to choose whatever seems exciting for the moment and never take time to think about who they want to be in a year, 5 years...so they remain fools. They aimed for nothing and achieved it! The wise ask questions: *What kind of person do I want to be a year (or more) from now? What skills do I want to have achieved? How can I order my days to reach these goals?*
7. Truth: The Bible tells us it is the Lord who grants wisdom and knowledge and that we should: *"Search for them as you would for silver; seek them like hidden treasures."* Proverbs 2:4 NLT
8. Application
  - a. Have you been working on a skill for a long time and still don't have it? Remain diligent! You are NOT wasting time! Your body is slowly getting stronger and perfecting details. Follow your coach's instructions and use every minute you can in class to practice. One day, you'll say, "I DID IT!"
9. Wrap Up
  - a. Repeat together: ***I will diligently seek God's wisdom knowing that He will give me more and more.***

## Planning:

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## Week 9: May 3-8

### 1. Practice declaration & verse together

2. **Lead-in:** (*Pick one or both*) Have you ever met someone you didn't like at first, but later became good friends with? Have you ever tried a sport you didn't like at first, but now it's your favorite?

3. Share today's main point:

**Lesson 9: *Choosing to spend time on things I don't like can bring unexpected rewards.***

4. **Short review:** Josh dug deeper into the meaning of the red marker by slowing the movie way down and examining each detail carefully. He asked himself questions and replayed three of the scenes in particular. After reading three statements written at the top by the Voice, he shouted, **"I KNOW THE SECRET!"**

5. Listen to Chapter 9 of story: **Great Grandma**

### 6. Questions (Choose one or more that best fits your class)

- Why was the red marker moving during the movie at the theater but not on the DVDs given to the kids? (*The movie was about the life of the young man, not their life. The red marker held the secret clue of how to add time to their account so it would never get to zero. It revealed what actions the young man did that caused it to go up or down. Wise stewardship of time would add more time to his account, while foolish choices would take it away.*)
- When did the marker most often move up? (*When he was helping others.*)
- How did Josh feel about visiting his great grandma when he was asked to do so? (*He did NOT like it! Nursing homes were depressing places.*)
- What unexpected reward did Josh receive that made him want to get up early Saturday mornings to go visit her? (*He was fascinated by her stories and while listening, he grew quite fond of her.*)
- \*After asking questions c & d, ask "Who was Josh thinking about when he did NOT like visiting her, and what caused him to willingly sacrifice his sleep-in day to go be with her?" (*Listen and then emphasize the transformation that happens in people as they build relationships with others. In this case, Josh only focused on his own dislike of the external surroundings of the nursing home at first. But as he listened to his grandma's stories, his focus shifted to her inward hidden personality resulting in a very meaningful relationship for both of them. This is one the highest forms of wise use of our time! )*

### 7. Application

- Is there someone you don't like but haven't spent any time getting to know them? You could be missing out on a special friendship. NOW is the time to change that!

### 8. Wrap Up

- Repeat together: ***Choosing to spend time on things I don't like can bring unexpected rewards.***

## Planning:

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## Week 10: May 10-15

### 1. Practice declaration & verse together

2. **Lead-in:** Have your parents ever asked you to do something really strange or unusual and you just couldn't figure out why - but then you discover the reason....it's a surprise party!! They knew what they were doing, but you had NO idea!

3. Share today's main point:

**Lesson 10: *Since God is master of my time, He may ask me to spend it on something unusual.***

4. **Short review:** Josh learned the secret of the red marker and now knows what things will add time to his account. He also received an unexpected reward for doing something he did not like at first - visiting his great grandma in the nursing home. He discovered a fascinating person whose stories drew them together. He is almost 16 now, and his grandpa is giving him his old jeep in exchange for working on his farm.

### 5. Listen to Chapter 10 of story: *Rudy Needs a Friend*

### 6. Questions (Choose one or more that best fits your class. \*Older students)

- How is Rudy spending his time over the summer? (*Playing video games.*)
- Why doesn't Josh want to spend time with Rudy anymore? (*He realizes how easily he can get caught up in video gaming and doesn't like the emptiness he feels afterwards. Plus, his marker always goes down!*)
- Josh gave a good reason for not spending time with Rudy. Why did Dad want him to pray about it? (*Dad noticed Rudy's loneliness. He knew he needed real people, not video games, to fill his emptiness.*)
- What did Josh decide to do and how does he feel about his decision? (*After praying, he thinks Dad is right - he should call Rudy. But he doesn't FEEL like doing it because it makes no sense to him.*)
- \*Josh realizes how easy it is for him to get caught up in gaming and lose track of time, so he decides it's best if he doesn't play at all. A wise choice, especially since his marker always plunges downward. So why would Dad ask him to pray about changing his mind when Josh is clearly making such good progress in the use of his time? (*After listening to answers, add this thought: It's true that Josh has made a wise choice to stop gaming - a choice that benefits HIM. He won't feel empty, his marker won't plunge, he'll get his homework done on time... all great things. However, both God and Dad see something else that is more important; Rudy's spiritual and emotional condition. God and Dad know that Rudy is sinking into despair. He desperately needs help. Could God be asking Josh to change his focus from what is good for himself to what is good for Rudy? What might happen if he does so?*)

7. **Truth:** Another verse in the bible tells us this:

*"My thoughts are nothing like your thoughts," says the Lord. "And my ways are far beyond anything you could imagine."* Isaiah 55: 8 NLT

### 8. Application

- God loves people, not things! You cannot cheer up a 'thing' but you can cheer up a person.
- Take notice of those who may need a kind word or a little help. That will be time well spent!

### 9. Wrap Up:

- Repeat together: ***Since God is master of my time, He may ask me to spend it on something unusual.***

## Planning:

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# Winter 2020-21 CT: 'I Am a Steward of Time' Senior Version

## How do I practice good stewardship?

"I make the most of the time God has given me."

## What does God say? Ephesians 5:15-16 (NLT):

"So be careful how you live. Don't live like fools, but like those who are wise. Make the most of every opportunity"

## Week 11: May 17-21 (Starwatch Sat 5/22; Staff training Mon 5/24)

### 1. Practice declaration & verse together

2. **Lead-in:** Based on the story so far, where would you say Josh and Rudy's red markers are right now? *(A white board would be a good visual! Draw two bars with their names above and put the mark where kids think it belongs.)*

### 3. Share the main point:

**Lesson 11: *I can't recover time I wasted, but NOW is the time I can start making better choices.***

4. **Short review:** Josh and his dad see Rudy in town. He looks depressed. He still spends his time gaming and invites Josh over. Later Dad asks Josh why he doesn't visit Rudy anymore and Josh explains that gaming robs him of valuable time so it's better to stay away. Dad asks him to pray about it. It makes no sense to Josh why God would want him to go play video games, but he calls Rudy anyway.

### 5. Listen to Chapter 11 of story: *Starting from Zero*

### 6. Questions (Choose one or more that best fits your class. \*Older students)

- Why did Josh's red marker go up after he went to Rudy's this time? (*Our markers go up the most when we choose to give up our own plans and do good for others, even if it's hard. Josh was serving Rudy this time, not himself.*)
- Where is Rudy's red marker when he digs up his DVD? (*Zero*)
- How would you describe Rudy's life when the marker is at zero? (*lonely, empty, sad, no purpose, no friends*)
- How does Josh help Rudy get his marker to start moving upward? (*He got him interested in cars so he enrolled in a mechanics class; introduced him to his grandpa who gave him riding lessons; Rudy worked cleaning the stalls; Rudy and Grandpa became friends. Josh taught Rudy that time spent loving people and helping them is what brings meaning to his life.*)
- "Whoever tries to keep the life they have will lose it. But whoever gives up their life will save it."*  
"I see that now with Rudy," replied Josh. "He's spent his time on all the wrong things and now his life is empty." "And perhaps if you give up part of your time, Josh, you may be able to help him save it."  
Lots to think about here! How has Rudy spent most of his life so far? What has he been trying to 'keep'? Why has he kept returning to gaming even in his current state of depression? In what ways has Josh 'given up' his life and 'found' it? The everyday choices you make now are either contributing to the future loss of your life or the saving of your life. (*See last page.*)

### 7. Application:

- Where would you say your 'marker' is right now?
- How can you spend some of your time today to make it move upwards?

### 8. Wrap Up:

- Repeat together: ***I can't recover time I wasted, but NOW is the time I can start making better choices.***

## Planning:

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# Winter 2020-21 CT: 'I Am a Steward of Time' Senior Version

## How do I practice good stewardship?

"I make the most of the time God has given me."

## What does God say? Ephesians 5:15-16 (NLT):

"So be careful how you live. Don't live like fools, but like those who are wise. Make the most of every opportunity"

## Week 12: May 25-29 (No Mon classes, Staff training 5/24)

### 1. Practice declaration & verse together

### 2. Share the main point:

**Lesson 12:** *I will be evaluated by God on my stewardship of time. Will He say WELL DONE?*

### 3. Short review:

Josh has committed himself to spend time with Rudy every week in hopes that he can save him from falling into deeper depression and give him something meaningful to live for. At first he dreads having to play the video games, but he eventually finds ways to talk with Rudy about other things. Rudy's life is the picture of someone who has let his marker go to zero. Over the next several months, Rudy begins to change as he learns that time spent with people, helping and caring for them, is very rewarding. His marker begins an upward journey.

### 4. Listen to Chapter 12 of story: *The Evaluation*

### 5. Questions (Choose one or more that best fits your class.)

- How would you feel if you were Josh waiting for your evaluation?
- If you were being evaluated right now, what are some things you have done with your time so far that you think would play across the screen? (*Emphasize that some of Josh's images were small things, like reading to Lily. Some took only a few minutes of his time while others took months - like helping Rudy.*)
- How was Josh feeling as he watched the red marker rise on the screen? (*Full of joy - enough that he felt like he would burst!*)
- If you were being evaluated right now on how well you have stewarded your time so far, would you hear the Evaluator say: "WELL DONE!" or "You need to make some better choices," or "LOOK OUT! You're close to ZERO!"
- What things will you do from now on so you can be a better steward of your time?

### 6. Wrap Up: Repeat together: *I will be evaluated by God on my stewardship of time. Will He say WELL DONE?*

## Planning:

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# Winter 2020-21 CT: 'I Am a Steward of Time' Senior Version

## How do I practice good stewardship?

"I make the most of the time God has given me."

## What does God say? Ephesians 5:15-16 (NLT):

"So be careful how you live. Don't live like fools, but like those who are wise. Make the most of every opportunity"

## Supplements

### Week 4: The Box

Collect an appropriate number of decorative gift boxes that have removable tops. You can decide the size based on the contents you choose; wooden blocks; legos/duplos, marbles, dice, silverware, etc. Secure it with rubber bands or ties/ribbon so you can use the boxes over again. Pull it out from somewhere and say, "Well! Look at this!" Set the box down or hold it up so all can see, but don't ask any question. The point of this is to make kids curious and get them to ask questions. Pass the box around, let them shake it and start guessing. Choose objects that are NOT easy (like money) but that DO have distinct sounds when shaken. As they start guessing, don't answer, just listen. After everyone has guessed, ask something like, "How can we know what's in here?" Of course they will say, "OPEN IT!" Tell them, "Discovering answers is very satisfying and can add meaning to our lives."

### Week 6: Older students discussion: Rating System

1 = High-level: aside from emergencies, no distractions allowed; a requirement; has serious consequences

2 = Mid-level: must be completed, but not urgent; could be rescheduled; consequences are personal and bearable.

3 = Low-level: Would be nice if it were completed, but no real consequences involved.

Give examples:

- You're halfway finished with your art project due in a week. Your best friend texts and invites you to a movie. What rating do you give your project? What do you choose? Why?
- You have been hired by your neighbor to feed and walk her dog every morning and evening this whole week while she is away. You get a last minute invite to your friend's cabin on the lake and to Cedar Point. What rating do you give your pet job? What do you choose? Why?

### Week 11: Older students discussion

- How has Rudy spent most of his life so far? (*Mostly gaming*)
- What has he been trying to 'keep'? (*Perhaps the thrill gaming can give; a sense of control; to keep from confronting a greater painful problem or to avoid the emptiness he lives with when he's not gaming...many answers!*)
- Why has he kept returning to gaming even in his current state of depression? (*There's plenty of scientific info available today about the addictive effects of gaming, but the Bible has this to say: "So I'm telling you this, and I insist on it in the Lord: you shouldn't live your life like the Gentiles anymore. They base their lives on pointless thinking, and they are in the dark in their reasoning. They are **disconnected from God's life because of their ignorance and their closed hearts.** They are people who lack all sense of right and wrong, and **who have turned themselves over to doing whatever feels good.**" Ephesians 4: 17-19 CEB*)
- In what ways has Josh 'given up' his life and 'found' it? (*He made time to diligently seek the secret of the marker; he made choices regarding his time use based on the truth of the Bible and the wisdom offered by his parents; he has invested time into the lives of people above things.*)

**The everyday choices you make now are either contributing to the future loss of your life or the future saving of your life.**