

Time is Luck and Life is Precious

"Yet you do not even know what tomorrow will bring. What is your life? For you are a mist that appears for a little while and then vanishes." James 4:14

In her high school graduation speech, Gwen Stacey tells her fellow graduates that time is luck. She also tells them that their lives are precious because they are vulnerable and that time passes quickly.

We have a valuable treasure in time. There are only so many minutes in our waking days and only so many days in our lives. What we do with them matters. If you've ever had a family member or friend move away, then you know that you lose that treasure of spending time with them. This is what makes all of those memories so precious.

Because time is luck and life is precious, the decisions you make with what to do with them are very important. A key part of growing up is knowing how to manage time and balance responsibilities. Lives full of nothing but play or spent consumed by work are equally dangerous.

Discussion Questions

- 1 How is time valuable to you?
- 2 What do you wish you had more time to do?
- 3 How can you make better use of the time you have?

"But we urge you, beloved, to do so more and more, to aspire to live quietly, to mind your own affairs, and to work with your hands, as we directed you, so that you may behave properly toward outsiders and be dependent on no one." 1 Thessalonians 4:11-12

In the same graduation speech, Gwen Stacey tells the students to live their own lives and make them count. As high schoolers--and even as adults--it is tempting to look at people around us and to want to be like them. We want the clothes they have, the car they drive, or the phone they use. We might dress like our favorite celebrities or mindlessly do what friends tell us to do, even when we don't want to or know that it's wrong.

Of course, many of us would like to have Spider-Man's powers, but let's face it, that's not likely going to happen. Still, each of us has a unique combination of talents and abilities unlike anyone else. When you try to be like someone else, you cover those up. Your life counts for something when you express those talents to the best of your abilities. When you do that to help people, like Spider-Man, you can change the world, but if you do it for selfish gain, you can hurt those around you. Your life will count for something. What will it be?

Discussion Questions

- 1 When have you tried to imitate other people's lives or choices? Was it a good thing or a bad thing?
- 2 What are your talents and abilities? When have you used them for good? When have you used them irresponsibly?
- 3 Can you name people who have made their lives count for something big or positive? Who were/are they and what was it?



Live Your Own Life and Make it Count