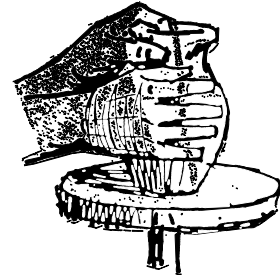


# His Workmanship at Westside

“For we are His workmanship, created in Christ Jesus for good works.”  
—Ephesians 2:10



Vol. XXIII

January 12, 2014

No. 2

Isaiah 64:8

**It's Time to Simplify: Busy-ness v. Fruitfulness,** by Tim Jennings from *Focus Online* magazine

“See then that you walk circumspectly, not as fools but as wise, **redeeming the time, because the days are evil,**” Eph 5:15-16. The promise of a New Year is exciting. It floods our minds with a whole list of hopes and dreams. So we buy our calendars and fill our schedules with activities until every blank space is filled.

But perhaps we need to pause and remember that *being busy is not the same thing as being fruitful or significant.* Fruitfulness is a result of abiding in Jesus. We must be grafted into Him, be in Him, in order to bear fruit that is eternal and of significance, Jn 15:1-8; 1 Jn 2:6, 28; 3:24; 4:13-16 (to get “in Him,” we must be baptized into Him and into His death, Gal 3:27; Rm 6:3; Col 2:10-12). Significance comes from the quality of what we do, and nothing is of greater quality than to “seek first the kingdom of God and His righteousness,” Mt 6:33. Plans made with these priorities in mind result in eternal fruit, a significant eternal life. ***Our time is a most precious commodity of the kingdom of heaven.*** What we spend our time on is what we've purchased for our lives. This is why Moses prayed, “*teach us to number our days, that we may gain a heart*

*of wisdom,*” Ps 90:12. One of the ways God underlines the value of each moment is by making so few of them! Even with the best of modern medicine at our disposal, life is startlingly brief. Life is like the summer grass, green today, gone tomorrow, Is 40:6-8. Every moment is a precious treasure to be used in meaningful pursuits, and what stands forever in our lives is the word of God. Is it in our hearts and minds? Do we memorize and learn His words daily?

***Our time is stolen from us by the decision to delay godly deeds.*** If we say, “I am all for growing in faith, serving the saints, and teaching the lost, but now is not the best time,” we deceive ourselves, Hag 1:2. Our excuses may sound legitimate—we need just a little more knowledge, a bit more money, a little less stress, and then we will really be able to serve the Lord. But when we decide to delay, we have caused that moment to sprout wings and fly away to a pointless horizon. Even worse, when we know God's will and delay or neglect to do it, He does not give us further growth or knowledge, see Mt 13:12; 25:29; Mk 4:23-25; Lk 8:18; 12:43-48; 19:26. The circumstances of your life may not

be painted with the colors of a Hall-mark greeting card. You may want to have a different job, live in another town, or look a different way, but that is not where you are now. Now is what needs your attention. Use now for the kingdom. Don't waste your time desiring something else—merely pining for it is covetousness. Begin today to set about obtaining the treasures of knowing Christ; have righteous goals. Spend your time planting the



seeds of the kingdom right where you are and see a bit of Eden begin to blossom.

***The most subtle thief of our time is good activities which rob us of the best.*** We are busy people. We're not wasting our time with trivial games. Our days are not eaten up with sinful  
continued on p. 2

**"LORD, make me to know my end, and what is the measure of my days, that I may know how frail I am."  
—Psalm 39:4**

and selfish activities. Our schedules are stuffed full of good efforts. We are masters of time management. And yet we can be totally useless to the kingdom of God and live eternally meaningless lives! Jesus met a man on the road one day who said, "Wait, Lord! I want to follow you, but let me first finish this project at work." Another man yelled out, "Yes, I want to follow you, too, just let me first take care of a family situation, and I'll be right there." We applaud these men for wanting to follow Jesus, and we admire their commitment to work and family. After all, those are good things. But their words broke the Lord's heart, and He said, "*No one, having put his hand to the plow, and looking back, is fit for the kingdom of God,*" Lk 9:57-62. They chose to put things of secondary importance first. They were busy but with the wrong priority. Unproductive, ineffective, unfruitful.

***We must give priority to spiritual activities, or they will be buried under the avalanche of our daily obligations.*** Being successful at work is fine, but it is less important than thriving spiritually. We may like our children to be smart and athletic, but those things do not compare with their spiritual growth and service. They are not even in the same ballpark! Is it possible that our good and pleasurable activities have squeezed the life out of our spiritual priorities? The fact is that most of us put too many demands on our time with things that are not designed to accomplish God's purposes. Like our neighbors, we fill every waking hour with an endless stream of sports, classes, and meetings. Most of us need to do fewer

things in order to concentrate on better things. **We must stop letting our culture determine what our schedules will look like.** A hurting church, a broken world, and our own starving souls are waiting for us to choose what is best.



The answer is not simply to "get busier," but to live more intentionally. Here are suggestions to help you live in kingdom time.

**1. Make Intentional Plans To Serve.** Every week have specific things planned to serve kingdom purposes. Write down the day and time you will email or call a sister

who needs encouragement, visit the brother who needs help, talk to the lost person who needs a friend, read the Bible text that needs to be understood, and say the prayer that intercedes for others. Like most things, if it is not planned, it does not happen. Every week we must specifically plan several things to do because we "put first the kingdom of God," Mt 6:33.

**2. Have A Daily Purpose To Glorify.** No matter what you do each day, do it for the Lord's glory. Every moment matters. The details of our lives may seem mundane, but they are filled with eternal significance. "*Whatever you do, do all to the glory of God,*" 1 Cor 10:31. If you drive a nail, program a computer, change a diaper, sell a product, study a subject, or train a child, remember to use that time to God's glory. No moment used to honor the Lord is ever wasted, 1 Cor 15:58. It's your lifetime. Use it well.

**CONVINCE, COMMIT, CONNECT—2014 Goals:**

The elders have set seven goals for the Westside church this year:

1. Attend every service (includes attending gospel lecture meetings April 18-20, Fri-Sun, with Scott Kercheville).
2. Attend and prepare diligently for every Bible class.
3. Participate in April-June neighborhood evangelism and "invite your neighbor" IYN Sundays (1 in Feb, Apr, July, Oct).
4. Conduct/Take part in a vacation Bible school June 23-26 with a goal of 40+ students.
5. Convert/Baptize ten souls.
6. Present the gospel in studies (make opportunities to hear the gospel; increase # of home studies from 3 to 5): Goal 500/yr.
7. Invite people to hear the gospel: Goal 4,000/yr (about 275 in 2013). "*Invite*" includes 3 IYN events at 1000 invitations.

**Will you follow your pastors' direction and make these YOUR goals? Will you also pray for these goals and set goals for your personal growth in Christ via Bible study and memorization?**



Psalm 133:1

**Let your faith be seen in 2014**

“I rejoice to see your good order and the steadfastness of your faith in Christ.” —Colossians 2:5

**ENDA Threatens Biz, Religion,**  
*from p. 4*

How many times did we hear liberal pundits tell us that the passage of pro-homosexual legislation would not affect the general population, even those who oppose same-sex sex? “No one is going to force you to marry a homosexual.” But similar laws at the state level have already put companies out of business. Look what happened in California when the majority of voters opposed homosexual marriage: a single judge, who is a homosexual, overruled the vote. Homosexuals are notorious for suing anyone who opposes their agenda. The courts have been stacked with leftist judges who favor the homosexual agenda. Even though gay marriage advocates often say those marriages won’t hurt others, business owners have been finding out that isn’t true. Companies from several states, especially wedding-related businesses, have been sued and harassed for holding onto religious convictions. The wedding industry [has] been hardest hit by the tension between religious liberty and gay rights, in spite of a recent Rasmussen poll showing that 85% of Americans think business owners should be allowed to deny services for gay weddings if they have religious objections. Other companies like Chick-Fil-A and Barilla Pasta have been targeted for making statements that angered gay activists. The legislation affects every business

## Discipleship Here At Home

owner and religious organization when running a business is a hazard because of so many laws and restrictions. Engaging in certain sexual practices is not the same as racial distinctions. Race is not a behavior. A business should be permitted to discriminate against people who commit adultery or engage in premarital sex, just as they can make people who spit on the floor or wear immodest clothing leave. Some companies won’t hire people who smoke or take drugs. Urine testing is a standard hiring practice. These are behavior discrimination, and they are legal, except when it comes to immoral, unsafe, and irrational sexual practices.

\*\*\*\*\*

**Spirit-Controlled or Carnal,** by Ted Epp

Consider the lives of Abraham and Lot. We see that Abraham’s life was a symbol of the Spirit-controlled Christian, while Lot’s life was a symbol of the carnal Christian. Scripture refers to Christians who live according to the flesh as *carnal*, see 1 Cor 3:1, 3. It is never recorded that Lot built an altar. He was not known for his communion with God. As a result, he got into trouble, just as any believer gets into trouble when he does not take time for daily fellowship with God. (I don’t mean the time when the entire family reads the Bible and prays together. This, too, is extremely important, but I mean particularly your personal time alone with God.) Perhaps you say you do not have enough time because you are too busy with life’s activities. Anything that takes you away from this time of fellowship with God is sin.

Regardless of how much work you have to do, you can find some time to spend with God alone. As a believer, this is your number one prerogative. The devil always sees to it that we have little or no time to fellowship with God. But we can—and we must—make time for such fellowship. We must put first things first. “Walk in the Spirit, and you shall not fulfill the lust of the flesh,” Gal 5:16.

**PRAY FOR healing, protection, help, and comfort here and away**

- Judy Sartin**—shoulder injury and pain
- Mark Campbell**—cardio issues; cards to 2535 Brady Dr, CO Springs 80917
- Melanie Baughn’s** mother—severe pneumonia; Melanie is in Tulsa
- Kay Ransom**, formerly at Westside—severe back problems
- Bill Dennis**—heart issues
- David Hull**, a friend of **Randy Reames**—leukemia relapse; infection; pray he is open to the gospel
- Josh McDonald**, a friend of **Kory Tope**—unwanted divorce
- Pat Wilkes**—edema from A-Fib interfering with healing of left knee
- Vicky Keyes**, a friend of **Judy Sartin**—triple negative stage breast cancer
- Evangelism through home Bible studies**—pray God will bless our efforts
- Philippine brethren**—widespread typhoon damage for Christians in Leyte and Cebu
- CHRONIC CONDITIONS**
- Logan Corray; Rocco Sangellino Jr; Addison Tope; Pat Wilkes**—asthma
- Pearl Chapman**—to move to nursing care
- Autumn Hadders**—epilepsy
- Jonathan Hadders**—RA
- Danielle Huelsman**—vertigo, CV syndrome
- Kirk Johnson**—worsening MS; needs help around his house
- Menards**—aging; **Lloyd**, diabetes, weak; **Virginia**, worsening rapid macular degeneration; high BP
- Sandra Perry**—neuropathy from diabetes; kidney failure, may need dialysis
- Cheryl Reames**—diverticulitis; fibromyalgia
- Nell Free**—pacemaker, heart; back pain
- Judy Sartin**—spinal stenosis; severe arthritis
- Judy Sartin’s** grandson **Tristen**—autism
- Lynda Szymanski**—COPD, lung

\*\*\*\*\*

**Job concerns** **Linda Szymanski**  
**Expecting** **Liz Kosik**, early April—blood platelets low; **Christina Adams’s** daughter **Kayla**, May



### Exposing current thoughts & trends

#### **ENDA Anti-Religion, Anti-Biz**, by Gary DeMar & Tad Cronn

The harmless-sounding Employment Non-Discrimination Act could put a serious hole through religious freedoms in this country. The bill, which was passed the Senate in November, disallows discrimination against homosexuals, bisexuals, trisexuals, transgenders, cross dressers, gender benders, and whatever else the "gay rights" movement can think of by giving them the same protections as were given to other classes by the Civil Rights Act. That will require employers, landlords, and bureaucracies to look the other way if openly gay or cross-dressing employees start affecting business. Unforeseen consequences, such as bathrooms in businesses, may result.

As it stands currently, ENDA has some weak protection for churches, religious hospitals, and parochial schools that might object to the whole sinful homosexual lifestyle, but only if it involves a religious institution officially recognized by the government. Private institutions would enjoy no such protections, even if homosexuality violates a business owner's religious beliefs. Critics have suggested that language within ENDA would open the doors to lawsuits against employers who offend homosexual employees in any way, such as by having a Bible in plain view.

Even more worrisome is that, according to the pro-homosexual Washington Blade, Democrats in Congress are planning to strip out the protections for religious institutions once the bill passes both houses, making ENDA just another homosexual activist assault on religious freedom

Democrats have won the support of about a half dozen Republicans in the Senate by including the religious exemptions, but as their promises about health care, the Democrats are lying just to get the bill passed. ENDA is not about protecting people; it's about forcing acceptance of a lifestyle that most Americans still view as morally wrong on those who won't accept it. Most Americans are libertarian about behavior if you keep it in your own home; but don't bring your sexual fetishes out onto the street or into the classroom, and keep your hands off the children. There will probably always be a few confused youngsters who choose the gay lifestyle—for a short time. But most Americans believe gays don't have a right to recruit in schools, churches, or private businesses. They also believe that homosexuals certainly don't deserve to be a specially privileged class when those privileges come at the expense of other people's rights.

ENDA is being pushed as a non-discrimination protection law. In reality, it's a breeding ground for lawsuits, religious discrimination, and unemployment.

*continued on p. 3*



meets at  
13789 W. 8th Avenue  
Golden, Colorado 80401  
720-295-4530  
[info@thechurchingolden.com](mailto:info@thechurchingolden.com)  
[www.thechurchingolden.com](http://www.thechurchingolden.com)

#### **Pastors**

Larry Campbell (303) 246-8810  
DeWayne Howell (303) 973-7283

#### **Preacher**

Jim Reingrover (303) 973-5102

### *Assembly Schedule*

#### **Sunday**

Bible classes	9:00 am
Morning assembly	10:00 am
Afternoon assembly	1:30 pm

#### **Wednesday**

Bible classes	7:30 pm
---------------	---------

#### **This morning:**

**Adult Bible study, "Come out from among Them" Series, 2 Cor 6:17:**

"Biblical Authority," DeWayne Howell

**Sermon:** "Does Jesus Need Our Help?"  
by Jim Reingrover

**Sunday afternoon theme for January, CONVICTION:**

**Sermon:** "Understanding Conviction," by Jim Reingrover

#### **Through the Bible in 2014 on Facebook**

A five-day-a-week Bible reading program is on Facebook at <https://www.facebook.com/#!/groups/453561634749871/>. Anyone may join—only 7 readings so far; easy to catch up.