

“The Regret Of Missed Opportunities”

Lesson Text: **Luke 16:19-31 (Verse 25).**

I. We Don't Recognize Them.

- A.** At times, some have missed opportunities by not knowing what they had.
 - Someone threw away some of Winston Churchill's belongings.
 - A farmer used a meteorite, valued at \$100,000.00, as a door stop.
 - One man bought a painting for \$4.00, and underneath it was an original copy of the Declaration of Independence worth One million dollars.
- B.** Some stubbornly think they know everything already.
 - The Jews of Jesus' day, who rejected Him, are a prime example- **John 9:41.**
 - They missed the greatest opportunity to learn from Jesus, come to Him, and be saved— **John 8:48-59.**
- C.** His hometown didn't recognize His Worth- **Mark 6:1-4.**

II. We Are Not Ready For Them.

- A.** At times, some have missed opportunities by a lack of preparation. **Titus 3:1.**
 - We may not have the knowledge to help someone- **Hebrews 5:11-14.**
 - We may be fearful to try and fail- **Matthew 25:24-27.**
 - We may not have the resources they need- **Matthew 25:2-4.**

III. We Don't Want To Work For Them.

- A.** At times, some have missed opportunities by being lazy.
- B.** Thomas Edison quote- *“Opportunity is missed by most people because it is dressed in overhauls and looks like work.”*
- C.** Working For The Lord Does Require Labor- **Romans 12:11.**
- D.** **Romans 16:3; Philippians 4:3; Colossians 4:11-14.**
- E.** Our Identity Is To Be A Worker, Laborer, and Servant of the Lord.

IV. We Are Too Busy To Take Advantage Of Them.

- A.** At times, some have missed opportunities by too many other things.
- B.** Some have *“too many irons in the fire.”*
- C.** **Luke 10:38-42.**

V. We Can Wait Too Late For Them.

- A.** By Procrastination or Neglect, *“We never get around tuit.”*
- B.** **Ephesians 5:15-17.**
- C.** Opportunities for Evangelism, Service, Encourage & Strengthen Others....
- D.** *“I shall pass this way but once; any good that I can do or any kindness I can show to any human being; let me do it now. Let me not defer nor neglect it, for I shall not pass this way again.”* (Etienne de Grellet QUAKER MISSIONARY)