

To the Gateway family

### **TIME IS MONEY**

'Time is money' is the world's materialistic philosophy. 'Time is life' is closer to the Christian view. To invest your time in a person is to give them a very special gift.

There is a story in Luke Ch. 24 that has been described as one of the most moving dramas in the Bible. The story opens with despair but closes with overwhelming joy. Luke Ch. 24 is one of those 'hinge' chapters in the Bible, so much turns on what happened in this chapter. Vs.13-35 record the amazing encounter two disciples had with the risen Christ. The Cross had shattered the lives of all the disciples; they had ventured everything when they followed Jesus and the three years with Him had been a whirlwind of astonishing events and it seemed as they joined the triumphant procession into Jerusalem that the Kingdom had come and everything was going to be wonderfully different. But now He was dead and within the space of a few hours it had all changed and they were now men who were hunted by the religious authorities, but the disciples were about the experience the transforming power of the Resurrection.

Jesus had just accomplished the most important event in history, something planned before the beginning of time. He had marched into Hades, taken the keys of death from Satan, led the OT saints in triumphant procession, opening for ever a new way for God's people to approach God with boldness and confidence.

**Yet, in the midst of such momentous events Jesus took the time to go for a leisurely walk with two very hurting and disappointed disciples!** And they weren't part of the inner group of three or even of the twelve. The time with these two disciples was unrestricted and focussed on them. *"Jesus himself came up and walked along with them"* and very soon the Lord was ministering to them with patience and gentleness. Jesus did not delegate their care to an angel or even an archangel but set aside time to go to them and engage them in conversation.

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To the Gateway family (cont)

### **How Jesus ministered to two hurting disciples:**

He took them into deeper understanding of the Scriptures, especially the ones that concerned the need for Christ's suffering. They understood the Scriptures, but it was limited, and their understanding needed to go deeper. They were learning that the Christian life would involve suffering and that the will and purpose of God encompassed much more than our comfort and plans. Very soon the broken heart gave way to the burning heart.

What a blessing that they insisted the Lord stay for the night and have an evening meal with them. What a wonderful picture this presents – the resurrected, risen and triumphant Christ sitting at a leisurely meal with two shattered disciples. They had set aside any other matter to give time to listen to this fascinating stranger and at the breaking of the bread their eyes were opened to see who He really was.

It could have been so different if they had not invited Him to supper. Our life-style can so often crowd out meaningful time with the Lord. He has the time for us. We must make sure we have time to be with Him.

God's richest blessings

Pastor Jim Dick

