



It Is Never Too Early
Week 21 May 23-29, 2021
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“I expect to pass through this world but once. Any good thing, therefore, that I can do, or any kindness that I can show to any fellow creature, let me do it now; let me not defer or neglect it, for I shall not pass this way again.”

When we humans get a few years on us, the chances are that we have become wise enough that at least we know we have learned a few lessons. Our young years are often when we learn the most formidable ones.

My years in school were ones very much focused on social events and sports. Track and field were my favorite sports. (As you are reading, I ask that you please refrain from picturing me running the high hurdles!) I wanted to be the fastest and world’s best at any event I ran. A funny thing happened on my peripatetic journey to athletic stardom. My first two years of high school were running and jumping in any event I could. In my junior year, after telling me that I was too short to run the high hurdles, the coach entered me into that event. I did well. Late in the season, we had our regional meet to qualify for the state meet. I qualified...but my time ranked “slow” as compared to the others. On the day of the state meet, I had to travel by myself. Mine was a small school and the coach was busy coaching baseball that Saturday.

I made a decision then from which I have learned a lot. I did not run. I sat in the stands and enjoyed the meet on a nice spring day. I knew that the syzygy of events would be just fine next year and I would do much better. My lesson was this: next year never came. I never qualified again. I was waiting for the “perfect time” to perform. Since that time never came, I learned not to let that happen again. I have seen this skit played out in many folks’ lives. Do you know people who wait for the perfect moment to do things...like get to know the Lord or dedicate their life to Him? I wrote a mini sermon by which I live. It works for me.

Be strong in the Lord (Philippians 4:13). Build on the Lord (Psalm 127:1). Grow in the Lord (James 1:2-3) Serve with the Lord (Joshua 24:15).

The Irish say it so well in this blessing: *“Life is short and we do not have much time to gladden the hearts of those who travel with us. So be quick to love, make haste to be kind, and go in peace to love and serve the Lord.”* - Rocky

Scripture:

Philippians 4:13

Psalm 127:1

James 1:2-3

Joshua 24:15

Matthew 24:44

1 Corinthians 16:13

Proverbs 6:6-8