

Dear Friends



Some years ago, when I was working in Uniting, we celebrated “Spiritual Care Week” and the theme was, “Hospitality – The Gift of Time”. As I look around my home there are different ways to tell the time, there’s an old mantle clock that needs winding regularly and chimes on the half hour and hour, there’s a digital clock, a clock on my microwave and, a small alarm clock. All reminding me that time is always on the move.

How can we give the gift of time? We often feel we don’t have time to phone that friend, to write a letter or to visit. It is making space in our day or in our lives to have our morning or evening devotion, send that letter or email, to make that phone call or drop in for a visit. The result is often the rekindling of friendships, building bridges between a broken relationship, bringing joy to someone who is lonely or feeling sad. Most importantly it is spending time daily with God. We read in Ecclesiastes 3:1 “There is a time for everything, and a season for every activity under the heavens” – Let us remember that there is a time for everything and that we can share the gift of time with our family, friends, neighbours and the stranger we may meet on the street, in the shops or on the bus.

I looked up a few quotes and a couple of them speak very much into my life. I’ve highlighted a couple – which ones speak to you?

- “Time waits for no one”
- “Never leave till tomorrow that which you can do today.” – Benjamin Franklin
- “Your time is limited, so don’t waste it living someone else’s life.” – Steve Jobs
- **“Yesterday is gone. Tomorrow has not yet come. We have only today. Let us begin.” – Mother Teresa**
- **“If you spend too much time thinking about a thing, you’ll never get it done.” – Bruce Lee**

Lord, we thank you for the gift of time, help us to be prepared to share this gift wherever we go and with whom ever we meet. Amen

In Christian love and service,
Lyn

Unfortunately I wasn't able to find the words of this beautiful song. The words are based on Ecclesiastes 3 and the writer ends the song with "and I will trust in God, the changeless One of eternity"

Ecclesiastes 3
New Living Translation

A Time for Everything

- 3** For everything there is a season,
a time for every activity under heaven.
- 2** A time to be born and a time to die.
A time to plant and a time to harvest.
- 3** A time to kill and a time to heal.
A time to tear down and a time to build up.
- 4** A time to cry and a time to laugh.
A time to grieve and a time to dance.
- 5** A time to scatter stones and a time to gather stones.
A time to embrace and a time to turn away.
- 6** A time to search and a time to quit searching.
A time to keep and a time to throw away.
- 7** A time to tear and a time to mend.
A time to be quiet and a time to speak.
- 8** A time to love and a time to hate.
A time for war and a time for peace.