



The final message in our series, Getting My Life In Order, challenges us to view our schedules not as neutral but as deeply spiritual. Proverbs invites us to pattern our lives with diligence, to submit our planning to the Lord, and to pursue righteousness in all things. Whether we feel overcommitted, unbalanced, or aimless, the Bible clarifies how to order our time around what matters most. The final sermon in our series highlighted three key principles—diligence, trust in the Lord, and godly priorities—as anchors for a faithful life. In today's discussion, we'll consider our daily routines and determine whether our calendar reflects our calling.

**Key Passage:** Proverbs 21:5

**Discussion Questions:**

1. What does Proverbs 21:5 teach us about diligence and hastiness?

Proverbs 21:5 sets up a clear contrast between thoughtful planning and impulsive decisions. Diligence involves perseverance and intentional effort in completing tasks. At the same time, hastiness represents a rushed, impatient lifestyle seeking shortcuts and quick results. When we're diligent (faithful), we show up consistently in our parenting, work, and spiritual practices. The heart behind diligence is trust in God's timing and provision.

Proverbs 10:4 says, "A slack hand causes poverty, but the hand of the diligent makes rich."

Proverbs 14:23 says, "In all toil there is profit, but mere talk tends only to poverty."

Proverbs 13:11 says, "Wealth gained hastily will dwindle, but whoever gathers little by little will increase it."

2. What is one area of your life where you need to apply more diligence?

Many of us could benefit from greater diligence in our devotional time or relationships. For instance, committing to regular time with God each morning helps re-center our day. Applying diligence in family life might mean carving out time for meaningful conversations with our kids. Wherever we feel scattered or inconsistent, it is likely a place where God is inviting us into steady faithfulness.

3. What are the deeper spiritual risks of living a hasty lifestyle?

God is not against an entrepreneurial spirit – He is against a hasty life that neglects and rejects faithfulness and diligence. A hasty lifestyle can rob us of spiritual growth because we always chase the next thing instead of being present. We may skip prayer, avoid meaningful relationships, or miss divine interruptions. Spiritually, it's easy to appear busy but be shallow in faith. Hastiness ultimately reflects a lack of trust in God's process and timing.

4. Do you think your current schedule reflects a pursuit of godly priorities? Why or why not?

Evaluating our schedule can reveal whether we're chasing righteousness or reacting to demands. Something may be out of alignment if our week is filled with activities but no space for rest, worship, or service. Pursuing godly priorities isn't about adding more but intentionally choosing what matters most. Our calendar reflects our commitments—so we must choose wisely.

5. How would you redesign your weekly schedule to better reflect your trust in the Lord and your pursuit of righteousness?

Redesigning your schedule might involve blocking time for spiritual matters and enriching relationships before other commitments. You could limit social media or unnecessary entertainment to make room for prayer, reading, or rest. Trusting the Lord with your schedule might also mean being open to unexpected serving opportunities. The goal is for your calendar to reflect the life you say you believe in.

Proverbs 21:21, "Whoever pursues righteousness and kindness will find life, righteousness, and honor."

Reflective Question: Are you chasing after Christlikeness more than worldly achievements?

6. Why did the sermon emphasize "open hands vs. closed hands" about planning?

The metaphor of open hands reminds us to stay flexible to God's interruptions. Even with a well-planned schedule, God may bring moments that call for spontaneous obedience. Closed hands represent rigid control, which can prevent us from experiencing God's better plans. Trusting God means making room for Him to redirect our steps.

Proverbs 16:9, "The heart of man plans his way, but the Lord establishes his steps."

7. How can you make your recreation or downtime more spiritually rewarding?

I could trade an hour of scrolling on my phone for a walk while listening to Scripture or a Christian podcast. Choosing to spend time with spiritually encouraging friends also transforms downtime into a space for growth. Recreation isn't bad—but it should refresh my soul and not leave me more anxious. Small changes in how I rest can lead to big spiritual benefits.

8. How do your individual or family activities influence your spiritual priorities?

Family activities can either support or compete with spiritual commitments. When sports or events consistently pull us away from church, we teach our kids what we truly value. Prioritizing church, camp, or youth group communicates that God comes first. Every decision sends a message, and we must evaluate whether we're cultivating spiritually fertile ground.

9. What would it look like for you to "elevate your vision" for yourself and your family?

Elevating your vision means thinking and planning beyond yourself and considering the Kingdom impact. Do you want your career to serve others and honor God—not just provide security? Do you want your kids to chase after Christ more than they chase success? Your schedule is a key part of this vision—it must align with what you ultimately long for in your life.