

FROM THE PRESIDENT

REDEEMING THE TIME BECAUSE THE DAYS ARE EVIL



Twice Scripture speaks of “redeeming the time.” In Ephesians 5:15-16 Paul says, “Look carefully then how you walk, not as unwise but as wise, making the best use of the time, because the days are evil.” Colossians 4:5 shares this same truth, “Walk in wisdom toward outsiders, making the best use of the time.” Our culture is racing away from God and His Word and it seems we are returning to the time of Judges when “everyone did what was right in his own eyes” (Judges 21:25). Although the culture may be canceling things right

WE MUST DO ALL WE CAN TO REACH AS MANY AS WE CAN WHILE THERE IS TIME.

and left our God is still commissioning us as His ambassadors. We must be on mission calling children to “be reconciled to

God” (2 Corinthians 5:20). Regardless of circumstances—the culture, the changes, or the challenges—our job is clear. We must do all we can to reach as many as we can while there is time.

On June 11, 2021 we celebrate the 20th anniversary of the Supreme Court decision which gave us equal access to the public schools. We praise God for this open door and the thousands who have heard about

Jesus in public schools. We know the day may come when the doors will close. Satan would like nothing more than to shut God out of our schools and for the name of Jesus to be used only as a swear word. Even now there is legislation before the U.S. Congress which attacks religious freedom and would make it more difficult to declare the Gospel in public schools.

The fact remains, however, that our responsibility to reach the children is not based on whether schools are open or closed. Our responsibility is clear from Jesus’ last command to take the Gospel into all the world. The Great Commission stands regardless of obstacles and His last command must be our first concern. We must give ourselves to pray earnestly and seek new and effective ways to reach children for Jesus. We cannot rest or slow down or stop.

We must press on because the window of opportunity to reach boys and girls is small, regardless of whether the doors to the schools stay open. It is between ages 4 and 14 when children are most likely to respond to the Gospel. Children are the most fruitful mission field, but there is a limited time for the

harvest. The children who were in the first grade when God opened the door in 2001 are now age 26 and, according to George Barna, their likelihood of coming to Christ is 6% or less.

We must press on because the Lord may soon return. In John 9:4, Jesus reminded His disciples, “night is coming, when no one can work.” We cannot stand idly by and wait for COVID to go away; we must be creative in the face of COVID and find new and effective ways to share the Gospel. In *Child Evangelism Fellowship*® we are striving to double our digital presence in 2021 and are doing all we can to reach as many as we can while there is still time.

Simply put, we must “redeem the time because the days are evil.” Please, step off the sidelines and get involved. Give yourself wholly to what matters, realizing that God is not willing that any should perish, but that all should come to repentance. Thank you for partnering with us for the sake of the Gospel.

Yours for all the children,

Reese R. Kauffman