

**Introduction:**

1. You and I are transient, but we are also **immortal**.
2. Our NOW began on our **birthdate** and our FOREVER will begin after our **deathdate**.
3. We need God's **wisdom** to prepare for our NOW and our FOREVER.

**Texts:** Psalm 90:10-12; James 4:13-17; 2 Cor. 5:9-10

**A. How Long Before our NOW Expires?**

**1. Determining factors:**

- a. Our chronological age, or number of **years** we have already passed
- b. Our physical age, conditioned by our holistic **health**
- c. Our **sense** of meaning and purpose
- d. Our **survival** mood

**2. Common reasons why people self-terminate**

- a. **Loneliness** : a sense of aloneness
- b. **Pain** : physical, psychological, emotional
- c. **Judas'** complex due to remorse or guilt
- d. **Self** -atonement
- e. **Punitive** action on others
- f. **Affectionate** care for others
- g. **Hopellessness** is considered the major reason
- h. **Momentary** insanity
- i. **Wrong** doctrine

3. **Caution:** Get pastoral or psychiatric counselling if you face any of these suicidal symptoms.

**B. How do We Prepare for our Temporal Existence?**

**1. Career choice**

- a. What's our **passion**?
- b. Is our chosen career **marketable**?

**2. Marital choice**

- a. To marry or **not** to marry?
- b. Wisdom on **who** to marry?

**3. Family Building**

- a. Have **children** or not? How many?
- b. Husband and wife **rule**: Love and submission
- c. Parental influence: The **key** to child-rearing

**4. Time management**

- a. Alan Lakein said: "To **waste** your time is to waste your life, but to **master** your time is to master your life, and make the most of it."
- b. Alan Lakein's question: "Is this the **best** use of my time right now?"

**5. Money management**

**Five Don'ts:**

- a. Don't spend your money **before** you make it.
- b. Don't spend **more** than what you make.
- c. Don't buy expensive things that **lose** in value.
- d. Don't buy things just to **keep** up with the Joneses.
- e. Don't buy expensive things just for **status** symbol to impress people.

**Five Do's:**

- a. **Work** hard for your money.
- b. Have more money by earning **extra** income and by **lowering** your expenses.
- c. Practice the 80/20 money principle.
- d. Practice the John **Wesley** principle: Make all you can, save all you can, give all you can.
- e. Practice **God's** money principle: Proverbs 3:5-6; Luke 6:38; Malachi 3:10-11

**6. Retirement preparation**

- a. **When** should you begin saving for your retirement?
- b. **Calculate** how much money you will need to keep your standard of living.
- c. Don't **spend** your retirement savings unless it is absolutely necessary.

**C. When and How should we Prepare for our Eternal Destiny?**

1. **Now** is the time (2 Cor. 6:1-2).
2. Make it our goal to **please** God (2 Cor. 5:9-10).
3. Make it our purpose to **glorify** God in whatever we do (1 Cor. 10:31).
4. God said, "Prepare to **meet** your God" (Amos 4:12).

**Conclusion:**

**For the Life Group Tabletalk Discussion:**

- 1) Discuss the points of the sermon that are most relevant to you at this time.
- 2) Respond to the article under the Pastor's Corner.

PRAY