



**“Pastoral Answers to Life’s Questions:  
How Do I Order My Private World?”**

Deuteronomy 30: 15 “See, I have set before you today life and prosperity, and death and adversity.”  
cf. Deut. 30: 15-18; Psalm 90:1-2, 4, 10, 12, 14

Psalm 90:12 “So teach us to number our days, that we may present to Thee a heart of wisdom.”

Life is the sum total of the choices I make every day.

“Yesterday is a canceled check. Tomorrow is a promissory note. Today is the only cash you have – spend it wisely.

**Principles For Having a G.R.E.A.T. Day**

**G. GREET the day with PRAISE**

Ps. 118:24 “This is the day the Lord has made; let us rejoice and be glad in it.”

“rejoice” = Hebrew: gil = shout out with joy

“be glad” = Hebrew: samach = cheer

“Today, I choose to resign as General Manager of the Universe. Lord, God Almighty, this is going to be a great day!”

Alphabetical Worship: “Thank you. Lord that you are A \_\_\_\_\_ B \_\_\_\_\_ C \_\_\_\_\_ ”

**The Daily Joy Stealers**

- **Joy-stealer #1** “I don’t have enough time to do all that I need to do today.”
- **Joy-stealer #2** “I am still carrying over frustrations and hurts from yesterday.” cf. Rom. 12:18; 14:19
- **Joy-stealer #3** “This is going to be a horrible day.” cf. Deut. 30:15; Ps. 95:7; Neh. 1:11; Gen. 24:12; Ex. 32:29

**R. REPORT to the day with PURPOSE**

Acts 13:36 “For David, after he had served the purpose of God in his own generation, fell asleep, and was laid among his fathers...”

**Rehearsing My Daily Purpose**

#1. **“I am a Child of God.”** Today, I will not lose focus on who I am” Jn. 1:12-13; 2 Cor. 5:17; Col. 3:1-5

#2. **“I am a Soldier of the Cross.”** Today, I will not let myself get distracted from my duty to my Commander.” cf. 2 Tim. 2:3-4

#3. **“I am a Servant of God.”** Today, I will obey my Master at all costs.” Deut. 11:26-28; Josh. 24:15

#4. **“I am an Ambassador of Jesus Christ.** Today, I will represent My King in everything I say and do.”  
2 Cor. 5:20 ; Eph. 6:18-20

**E. ENGAGE the day with a PLAN** cf. James 4:13 -15

Prov. 16:1-3 “The plans of the heart belong to man, but the answer of the tongue is from the Lord. All the ways of a man are clean in his own sight, but the Lord weighs the motives. Commit your works to the Lord, and your plans will be established.”

**My Daily Priority Plan**

- A. The things I must do
- B. The things I should do
- C. The things I would like to do

Psalm 95:7 “For He is our God, and we are the people of His pasture, and the sheep of His hand. Today, if you will hear His voice...”

## A. ANALYZE the day with PERSPECTIVE

Luke 5:26 “And they were all seized with astonishment and began glorifying God; and they were filled with fear (i.e. reverence), saying, 'We have seen remarkable things today.'”

### Questions for the End of the Day

**Question #1. What remarkable thing did God do today?** Deut. 5:24

**Question #2. In what ways was today successful?**

**Question #3. In what areas would God say I did poorly today?** Heb. 3:15 ; 2 Sam. 3:39 ; 1 Sam.14:38

**Question #4. What would He have me do better tomorrow?** Matt. 6:34; 2 Chr. 20:16-17

## T. TERMINATE the day with PRAYER

1 Kings 18:36 “Then it came about at the time of the offering of the evening sacrifice, that Elijah the prophet came near and said, 'O Lord, the God of Abraham, Isaac and Israel, today let it be known that Thou art God in Israel, and that I am Thy servant, and that I have done all these things at Thy word.'” cf. Neh. 1:11

**Concluding Challenge:** Carpe Diem = Seize the Day

“Rejoice while you are alive; enjoy the day; live life to the fullest; make the most of what you have. It is later than you think. (Horace, the Roman Poet, writing around 50 B.C.)

Col. 4:5 :Conduct yourselves with wisdom toward outsiders, making the most of the opportunity.”

Heb. 3:13 “But encourage one another day after day, as long as it is still called 'Today,' lest any one of you be hardened by the deceitfulness of sin.”

Prov. 19:23 “The fear of the Lord leads to life, so that one may sleep satisfied, untouched by evil.”

Prov. 3:24 “When you lie down, you will not be afraid; When you lie down, your sleep will be sweet.”

“Blessed is the Lord who has not left you without a redeemer today.” Ruth 4:14

### **Discussion Questions:**

1. Which of these Principles for Having a G.R.E.A.T. Day are already in place in your life? Which are not? What additional principles would you add?

G = Greet the day with praise

R = Report to the day with purpose

E = Engage the day with a plan

A = Analyze the day with perspective

T = Terminate the day with prayer

2. What are the joy stealers in your life?

3. How important is it to rehearse your daily purpose as a child of God, soldier of the cross, servant of God and ambassador of Jesus Christ?

4. How well do you do in daily planning? What are the time stealers in your life?

5. Do you often end your day reflecting, praying and preparing for the next day?