



# A Time for Everything

Mission Advancement  
Sectionals  
March 2, 2023



# A TIME for EVERYTHING

**A TIME TO PRIORITIZE**

*What will be our priority? God's grace changes our hearts to serve!*

**A TIME FOR PERSPECTIVE**

*We don't live for the moment. What's the long-range goal?*

**A TIME TO PLAN**

*Jesus' ministry had a plan ... and a focus. What's ours?*

**A TIME TO PAUSE**

*How does resting in God's Word help people stay busy?*





**A Time to  
Prioritize**

# Prioritizing Priorities

1 Peter 2:2

**“Like newborn babies, crave pure spiritual milk, so that by it you may grow up in your salvation.**

Matthew 28:18-20

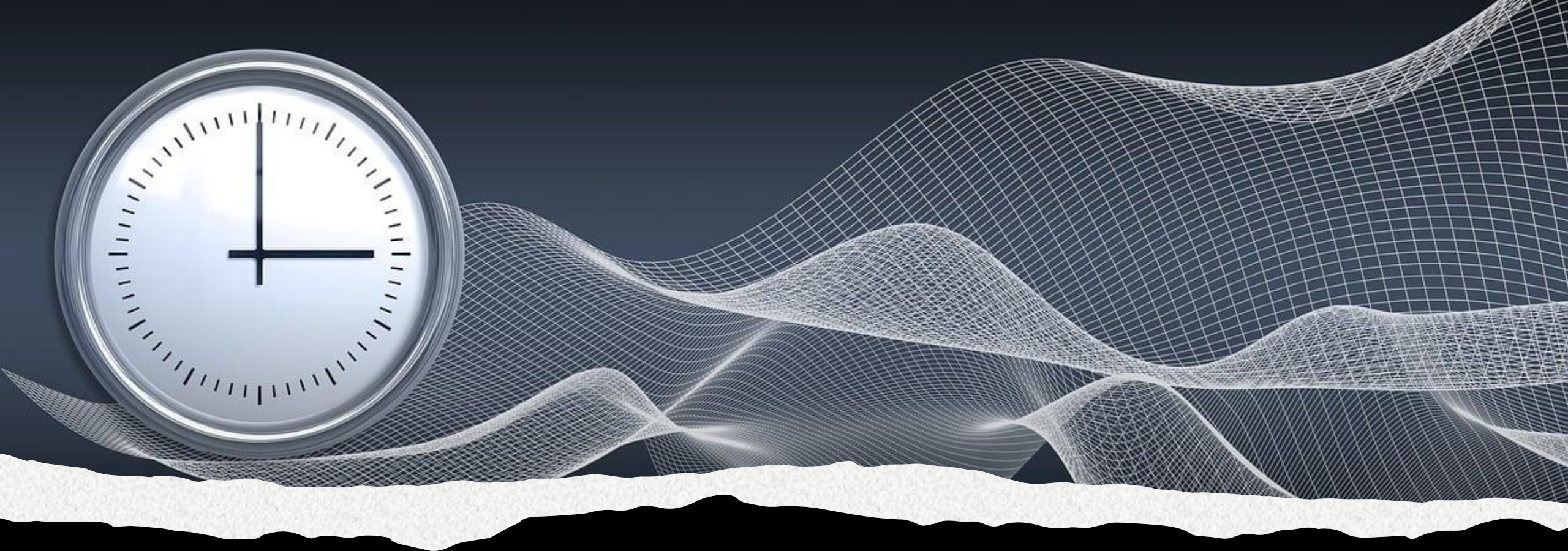
**“All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me. Therefore go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the F/S/and H, and teaching them to obey everything I have commanded you. And surely I am with you always, to the very end of the age.”**

Matthew 20:25-28

**<sup>25</sup> Jesus called them together and said, “You know that the rulers of the Gentiles lord it over them, and their high officials exercise authority over them. Not so with you.**

**Instead, whoever wants to become great among you must be your servant, and whoever wants to be first must be your slave— just as the Son of Man did not come to be served, but to serve, and to give his life as a ransom for many.”**





# A Time for Perspective

# Which eulogy will people prefer at their funeral?

## KING 1

Two vast and trunkless legs of stone  
Stand in the desert . . . Near them, on the sand,  
Half sunk, a shattered visage lies, whose frown,  
And wrinkled lip, and sneer of cold command,  
Tell that its sculptor well those passions read  
Which yet survive, stamped on these lifeless things,  
The hand that mocked them, and the heart that  
fed:

And on the pedestal these words appear:  
**'My name is \_\_\_[name]\_\_\_, king of kings:  
Look on my works, ye Mighty, and despair!'**

Nothing beside remains. Round the decay  
Of that colossal wreck, boundless and bare  
The lone and level sands stretch far away.



Ozymandias illustration. Nick Derington. Source: Google Images.

## KING 2

**“Now when  
[NAME] had  
served God’s  
purpose in his  
own  
generation, he  
fell asleep; he  
was buried  
with his  
ancestors and  
his body  
decayed.”**

*“One of the most important things you can say about the life of David is ... .”*

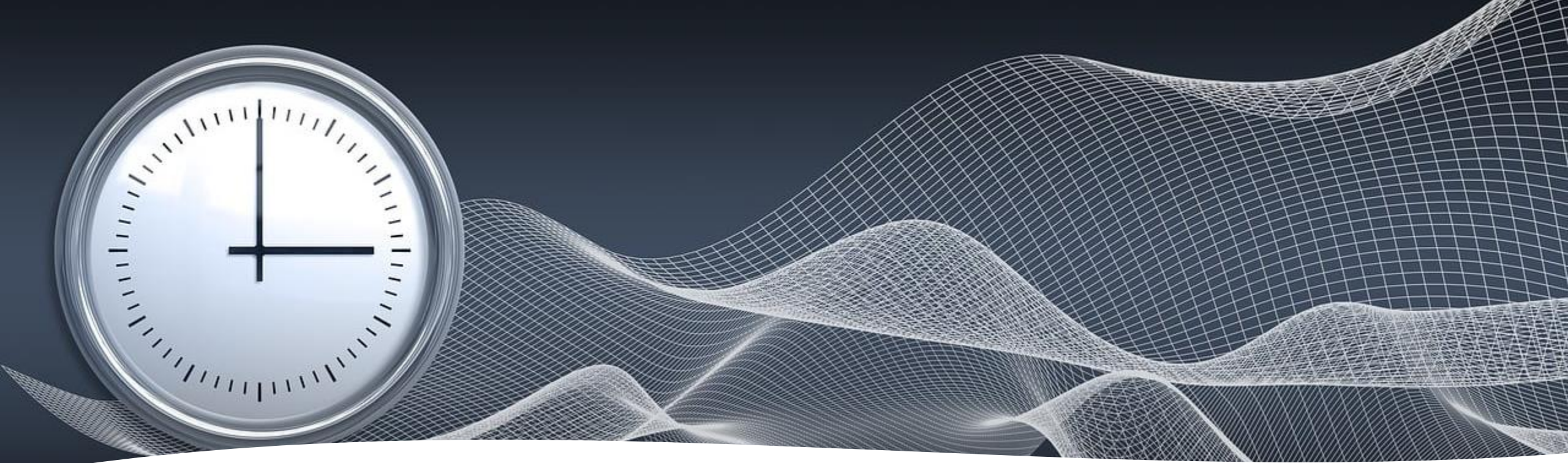
## **2 Samuel 7:12**

When your days are over and you rest with your ancestors, I will raise up your offspring to succeed you, your own flesh and blood, and I will establish his kingdom.

## **Acts 13:36**

Now when David had served God’s purpose in his own generation, he fell asleep; he was buried with his ancestors and his body decayed.





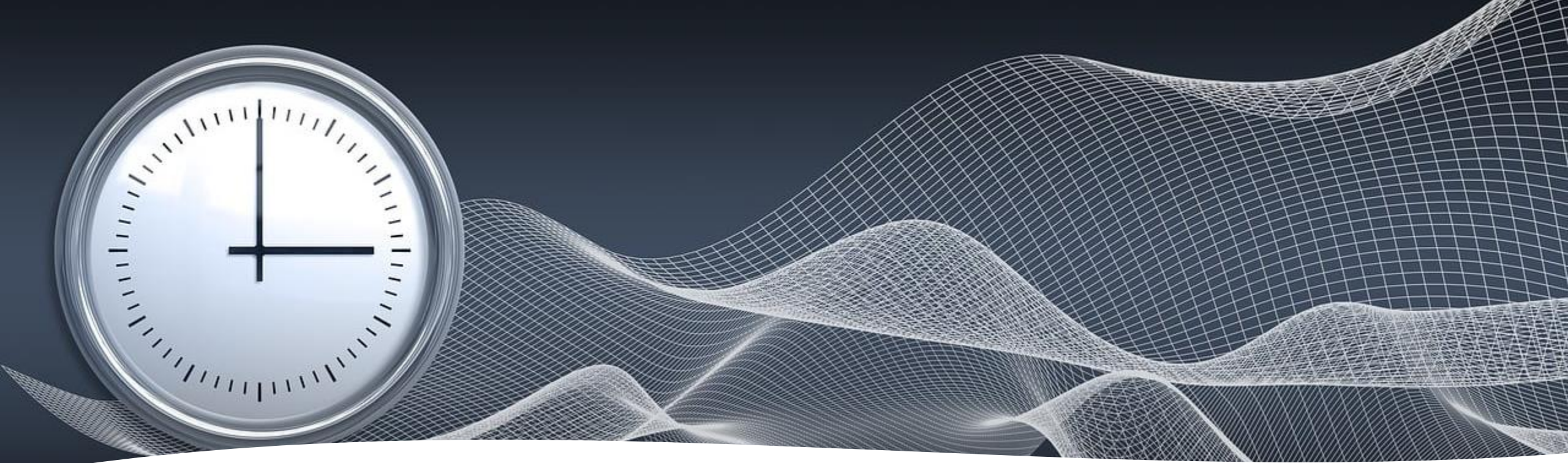
## Mark 8:31-33

### **Jesus Predicts His Death**

He then began to teach them that the Son of Man must suffer many things and be rejected by the elders, the chief priests and the teachers of the law, and that he must be killed and after three days rise again. He spoke plainly about this, and Peter took him aside and began to rebuke him.

But when Jesus turned and looked at his disciples, he rebuked Peter. “Get behind me, Satan!” he said. “You do not have in mind the concerns of God, but merely human concerns.”



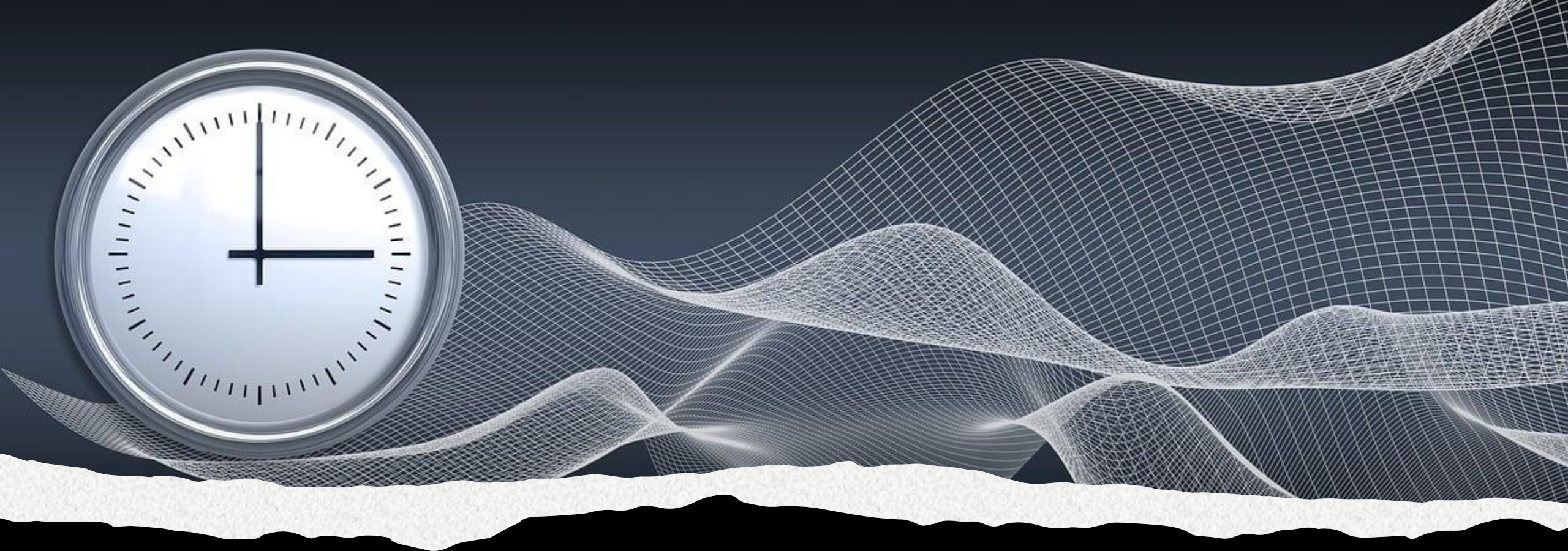


## Mark 8:34-38

### The Way of the Cross

<sup>34</sup> Then he called the crowd to him along with his disciples and said: “Whoever wants to be my disciple must deny themselves and take up their cross and follow me. <sup>35</sup> For whoever wants to save their life will lose it, but whoever loses their life for me and for the gospel will save it. <sup>36</sup> What good is it for someone to gain the whole world, yet forfeit their soul? <sup>37</sup> Or what can anyone give in exchange for their soul? <sup>38</sup> If anyone is ashamed of me and my words in this adulterous and sinful generation, the Son of Man will be ashamed of them when he comes in his Father’s glory with the holy angels.”





**A Time to Plan**



# God Plans, So We Plan

## Revelation 1:1

The revelation from Jesus Christ, which God gave him to show his servants what must soon take place. He made it known by sending his angel to his servant John

## John 14:1-3

“Do not let your hearts be troubled. You believe in God; believe also in me. My Father’s house has many rooms; if that were not so, would I have told you that I am going there to prepare a place for you? And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come back and take you to be with me that you also may be where I am.

## Jeremiah 29:10-11

This is what the LORD says: “When seventy years are completed for Babylon, I will come to you and fulfill my good promise to bring you back to this place. For I know the plans I have for you,” declares the LORD, “plans to prosper you and not to harm you, plans to give you hope and a future.

## Genesis 41:34-36

Let Pharaoh appoint commissioners over the land to take a fifth of the harvest of Egypt during the seven years of abundance. They should collect all the food of these good years that are coming and store up the grain under the authority of Pharaoh, to be kept in the cities for food. This food should be held in reserve for the country, to be used during the seven years of famine that will come upon Egypt, so that the country may not be ruined by the famine.”

# We Plan, Trusting God

**Luke 12:16-21**

<sup>16</sup> And he told them this parable: “The ground of a certain rich man yielded an abundant harvest. <sup>17</sup> He thought to himself, ‘What shall I do? I have no place to store my crops.’

<sup>18</sup> “Then he said, ‘This is what I’ll do. I will tear down my barns and build bigger ones, and there I will store my surplus grain. <sup>19</sup> And I’ll say to myself, “You have plenty of grain laid up for many years. Take life easy; eat, drink and be merry.”’

<sup>20</sup> “But God said to him, ‘You fool! This very night your life will be demanded from you. Then who will get what you have prepared for yourself?’

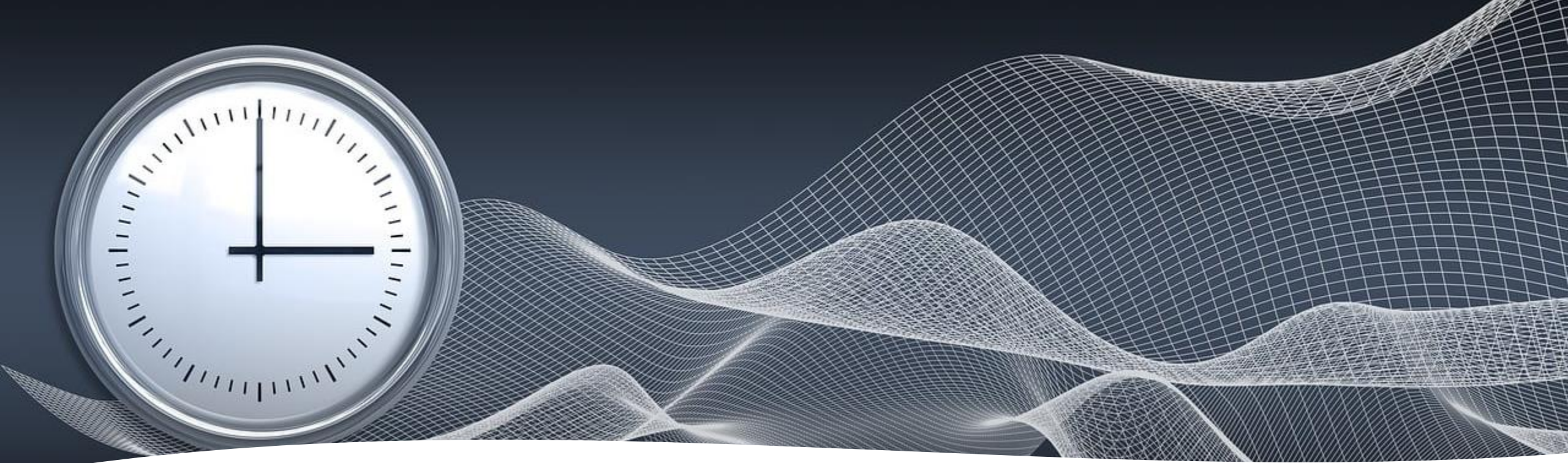
<sup>21</sup> “This is how it will be with whoever stores up things for themselves but is not rich toward God.”

**Luke 14:28-32**

<sup>28</sup> “Suppose one of you wants to build a tower. Won’t you first sit down and estimate the cost to see if you have enough money to complete it? <sup>29</sup> For if you lay the foundation and are not able to finish it, everyone who sees it will ridicule you, <sup>30</sup> saying, ‘This person began to build and wasn’t able to finish.’

<sup>31</sup> “Or suppose a king is about to go to war against another king. Won’t he first sit down and consider whether he is able with ten thousand men to oppose the one coming against him with twenty thousand? <sup>32</sup> If he is not able, he will send a delegation while the other is still a long way off and will ask for terms of peace.



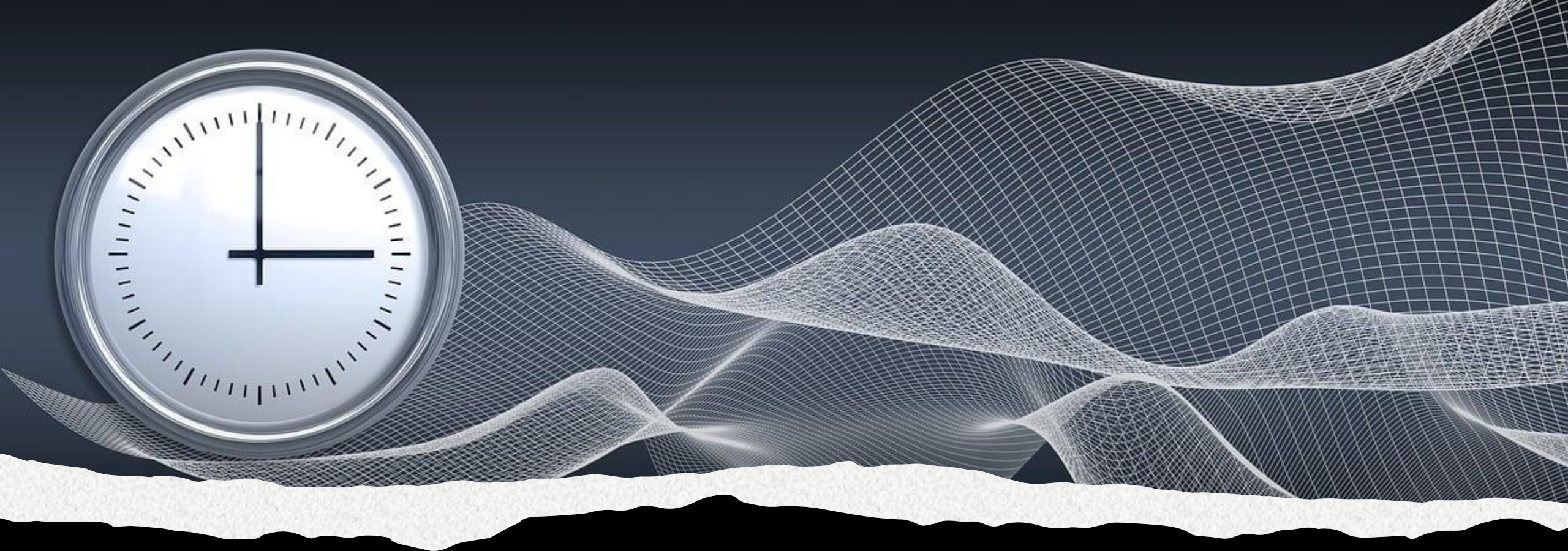


#### Paul's Vision of the Man of Macedonia

Acts 16:6-10

Paul and his companions traveled throughout the region of Phrygia and Galatia, having been kept by the Holy Spirit from preaching the word in the province of Asia. When they came to the border of Mysia, they tried to enter Bithynia, but the Spirit of Jesus would not allow them to. So they passed by Mysia and went down to Troas. During the night Paul had a vision of a man of Macedonia standing and begging him, "Come over to Macedonia and help us." After Paul had seen the vision, we got ready at once to leave for Macedonia, concluding that God had called us to preach the gospel to them.

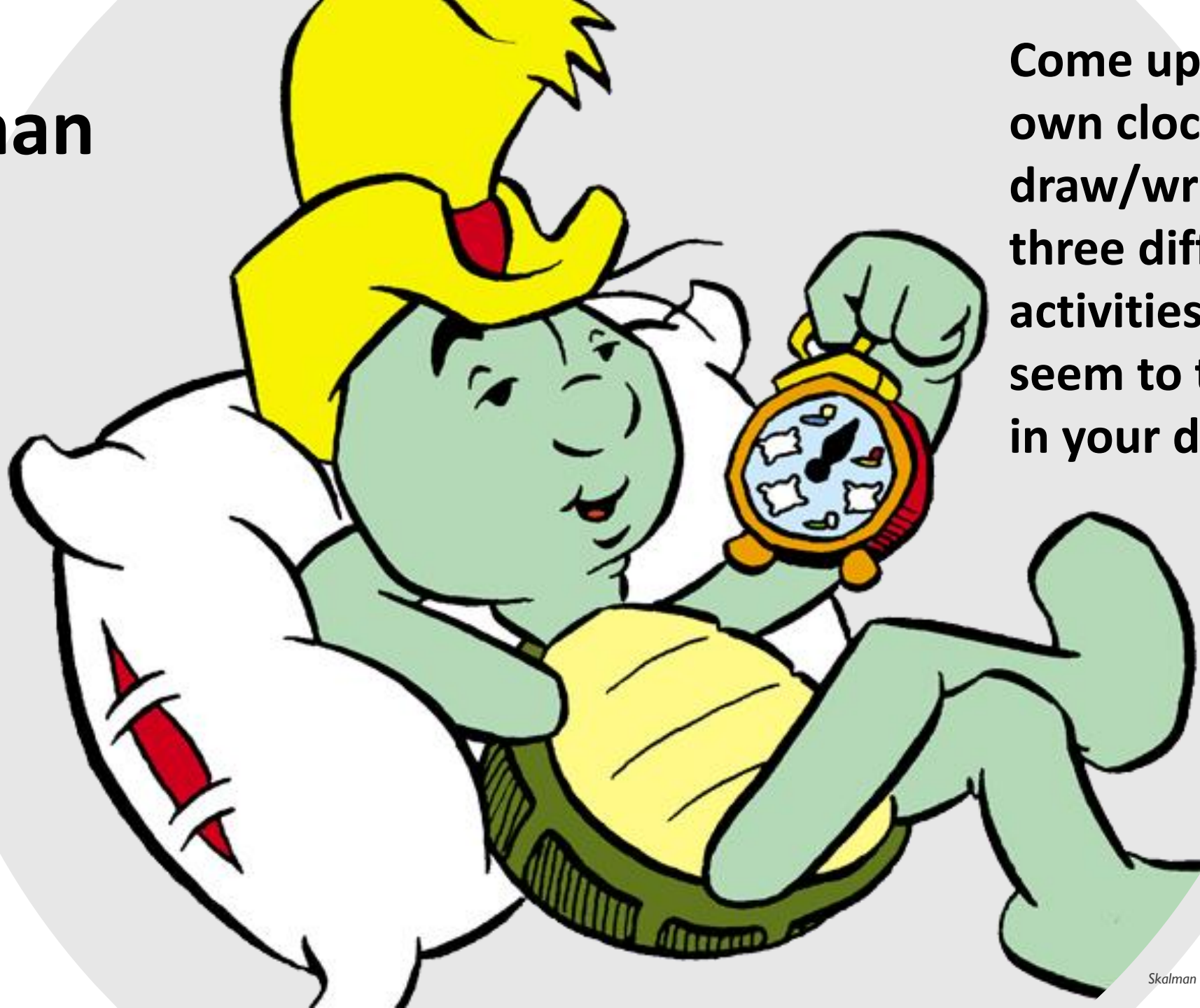




A Time to Pause



# Skalman



**Come up with your own clock and draw/write in at least three different activities that always seem to take up time in your day.**

# I'm Too Busy for ...

## Exodus 20:8-11

<sup>8</sup> “Remember the Sabbath day by keeping it holy. <sup>9</sup> Six days you shall labor and do all your work, <sup>10</sup> but the seventh day is a sabbath to the LORD your God. On it you shall not do any work, neither you, nor your son or daughter, nor your male or female servant, nor your animals, nor any foreigner residing in your towns. <sup>11</sup> For in six days the LORD made the heavens and the earth, the sea, and all that is in them, but he rested on the seventh day. Therefore the LORD blessed the Sabbath day and made it holy.

## Leviticus 23:3-8

<sup>3</sup> “There are six days when you may work, but the seventh day is a day of sabbath rest, a day of sacred assembly. You are not to do any work; wherever you live, it is a sabbath to the LORD.

<sup>4</sup> “These are the LORD’s appointed festivals, the sacred assemblies you are to proclaim at their appointed times: <sup>5</sup> The LORD’s Passover begins at twilight on the fourteenth day of the first month. <sup>6</sup> On the fifteenth day of that month the LORD’s Festival of Unleavened Bread begins; for seven days you must eat bread made without yeast. <sup>7</sup> On the first day hold a sacred assembly and do no regular work. <sup>8</sup> For seven days present a food offering to the LORD. And on the seventh day hold a sacred assembly and do no regular work.”

## Mark 2:27-28

<sup>27</sup> Then he said to them, “The Sabbath was made for man, not man for the Sabbath. <sup>28</sup> So the Son of Man is Lord even of the Sabbath.”



# I'm Too Busy for ...

## Exodus 16:21-30

<sup>21</sup> Each morning everyone gathered as much as they needed, and when the sun grew hot, it melted away. <sup>22</sup> On the sixth day, they gathered twice as much—two omers for each person—and the leaders of the community came and reported this to Moses. <sup>23</sup> He said to them, “This is what the LORD commanded: ‘Tomorrow is to be a day of sabbath rest, a holy sabbath to the LORD. So bake what you want to bake and boil what you want to boil. Save whatever is left and keep it until morning.’”

<sup>24</sup> So they saved it until morning, as Moses commanded, and it did not stink or get maggots in it. <sup>25</sup> “Eat it today,” Moses said, “because today is a sabbath to the LORD. You will not find any of it on the ground today. <sup>26</sup> Six days you are to gather it, but on the seventh day, the Sabbath, there will not be any.”

## Amos 8 (select verses)

“In that day,” declares the Sovereign LORD, “the songs in the temple will turn to wailing. Many, many bodies—flung everywhere! Silence!”

Hear this, you who trample the needy and do away with the poor of the land, saying, “When will the Sabbath be ended that we may market wheat?” — skimping on the measure, boosting the price and cheating with dishonest scales.

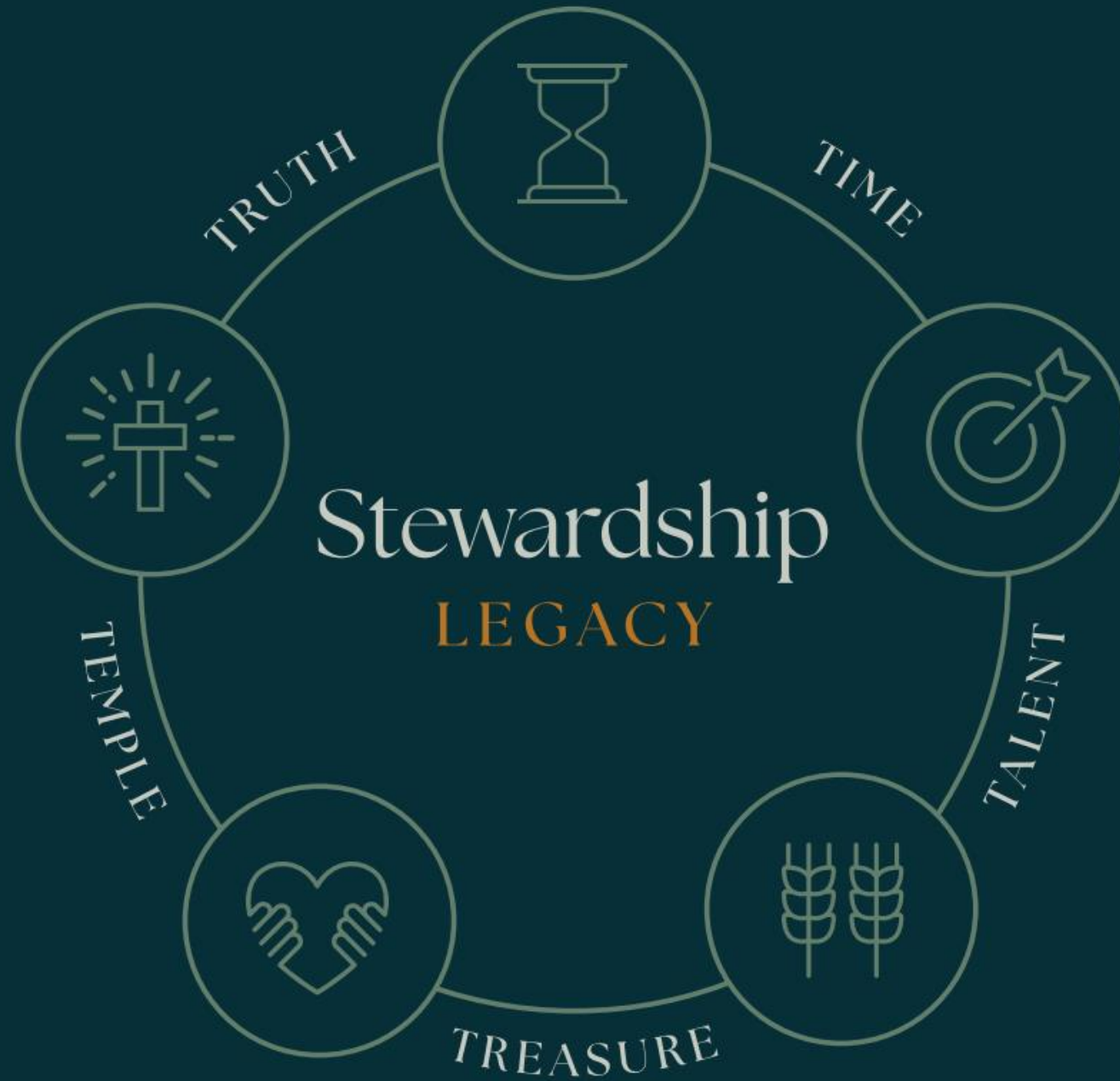
The LORD has sworn by himself: “I will never forget anything they have done. “In that day,” declares the Sovereign LORD, “I will make the sun go down at noon and darken the earth in broad daylight. I will turn your religious festivals into mourning and all your singing into weeping. “The days are coming,” declares the Sovereign LORD, “when I will send a famine through the land— not a famine of food or a thirst for water, but a famine of hearing the words of the LORD.

# I'm Too Busy Not To ...

In your small group, each person look up one passage to read out loud and then ask:

- When is “busyness” **good**?
- When is “busyness” **bad**?







Stewardship Legacy  
**TIME**



Stewardship Legacy  
**TREASURE**



Stewardship Legacy  
**TALENT**



Stewardship Legacy  
**TEMPLE**



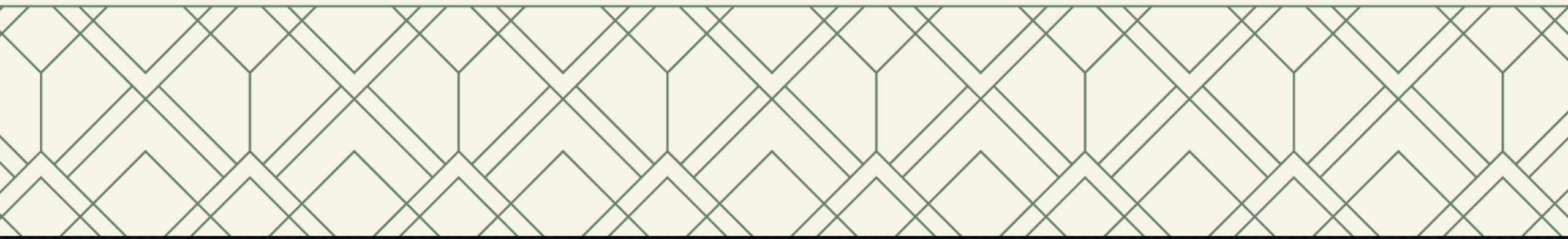
Stewardship Legacy  
**TRUTH**

legacy themes



# Stewardship

## LEGACY



Stewardship Legacy

TIME





# Stewardship Legacy

## TIME

- **A TIME TO PRIORITIZE:** *A Time to Embrace and a Time to Refrain* (Joshua 24:14-24)
- **A TIME FOR PERSPECTIVE:** *A Time to be Born and a Time to Die* (Galatians 6:7-10)
- **A TIME TO PLAN:** *A Time to Plant and a Time to Uproot* (Mark 1:29-39)
- **A TIME TO PAUSE:** *A Time to Search and a Time to Give Up* (Luke 13:10-17)





## Prayer

## Introductory Activity

- **Prioritizing Priorities:** Prioritizing is an important skill to have both personally and congregationally. We will cover both throughout this study, but this introductory activity asks you to think about congregational priorities. Read I Peter 2:2, Matthew 20:25-28, and Matthew 28:18-20 as a whole class. Discuss what these passages say about our mission as Christians.

Now, in your smaller groups, list up to 15 things you do as a congregation. Rank them in order of importance and explain why you ranked them the way you did based on the mission Jesus gives us as his church.





A Time for Prayer ...