

September

GraceNotes from Nancy Kay Grace

Got a Minute? Here are some *Timely Thoughts* for you...

September is one of those times of year when the pace picks up. Schools are back in session, sports seasons have begun, weekly ministries to youth resume. Traffic is heavier at certain times of day due to school traffic. The new pencils are sharpened and backpacks are bought. The family schedule is up for grabs until things settle in the new routine. Daily life is reorganized around the school year obligations. There are more commitments with less time and energy to fulfill them. More stress and less peace, but the same 24 hours in a day.

Time. There's never enough of it when we are enjoying life, and there's too much of it when we are bogged down.

"Teach us to number our days aright that we may gain a heart of wisdom." Psalm 90:12

The promise in the above verse offers some guidance. Let's break it apart:

- *Teach us*-- First, look to the Lord for how to spend your time. Prioritize and do what is most important. Not everything can have the same priority.
- *To number our days*-- Be accountable to God for how you spend your time. Each day is a blank page for us to write our life's story. Procrastination de-motivates us while extreme busyness exhausts us. Either of those are joy stealers in how we number our days. Seek balance in what you do, allowing time for responsibilities to your family, relationships and rest.
- *That we may gain a heart of wisdom.*-- Pray for wisdom on how you will spend your time, or rather; consider how you will *invest* your time. Investing is done for future rewards; spending consumes the available

resource. Can you invest your time showing love to others, doing acts of random kindness as you go about your daily life? Even as you wait in traffic, pray for the Lord to open your eyes to those opportunities to share his grace in this grace starved world.

Let these lyrics from a popular Christian song challenge your heart:

"We live, we love

We forgive and never give up

Cuz the days we are given are gifts from above

Today we remember to love and to love." From "We Live" by Superchick

The next time you look at the clock to dash off to the next commitment, take a deep breath. Pray for the Lord to show you how to number your hours and days to make them count for His kingdom.

-----BOOK NEWS-----

Omigosh!!!I am excited to announce I have a story in a new book!

Chicken Soup for the Soul: Celebrating Brothers and Sisters is now

available! This new book includes my story, "*Upgrades*," which tells of observing my children become friends again as adults. If you are interested in an autographed copy, I have a limited number of this book available.

Send \$18 (\$15 plus \$3 for shipping) to me at

3956 Chevalier Ave

Springdale AR 72762

Thanks to all those who attended summer book signings for
Refined By Fire: Defining Moments of Phenomenal Women.

I hope you are encouraged by the many stories of faith in this book.

This book is available on my website, www.nancygrace.com

or by snail mail to the address above (same price).

Also, FYI: A portion of my book sales is donated to World Vision.

May the Lord bless you as you seek Him to make the most of your time!

Sharing a touch of His grace,

Nancy Kay Grace

contributing author,

Refined By Fire: Defining Moments of Phenomenal Women

and **Chicken Soup for the Soul: Celebrating Brothers and Sisters"**

available at www.nancygrace.com

"Grow in the grace and knowledge of our Lord and savior Jesus Christ. To Him be glory both now and forever." 2 Peter 3:18

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