

Take the Time

Part Two - Once Upon a Time

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

Once upon a time begins with opportunity.

Ecclesiastes 3:1, There is a time for everything, and a season for every activity under heaven...

Esther 4:14, For if you remain silent at this time, relief and deliverance for the Jews will arise from another place, but you and your father's family will perish. And who knows but that you have come to royal position for such a time as this?"

Once upon a time comes in the form of opened doors.

Revelation 3:8, I know your deeds. See, I have placed before you an open door that no one can shut.

How to See More Doors Open

1. Be faithful with what you've been given.

Matthew 25:23, "His master replied, 'Well done, good and faithful servant! You have been faithful with a few things; I will put you in charge of many things. Come and share your master's happiness!'"

2. Pray for open doors.

2 Corinthians 2:12, Now when I went to Troas to preach the gospel of Christ and found that the Lord had opened a door for me...

Colossians 4:3, And pray for us, too, that God may open a door for our message, so that we may proclaim the mystery of Christ, for which I am in chains.

James 4:2-3, 2 You do not have, because you do not ask God. 3 When you ask, you do not receive, because you ask with wrong motives, that you may spend what you get on your pleasures.

3. Knock on some doors.

Luke 11:9, "So I say to you: Ask and it will be given to you; seek and you will find; knock and the door will be opened to you."

Revelation 3:20, "Here I am! I stand at the door and knock. If anyone hears my voice and opens the door, I will come in and eat with him, and he with me."

4. Be patient when doors remain unopened.

Romans 12:12, Be joyful in hope, patient in affliction, faithful in prayer.

Galatians 4:4, But when the time had fully come, God sent his Son...

Once upon a time requires us to seize the right opportunities.

Ephesians 5:15-17, 15 Be very careful, then, how you live - not as unwise but as wise, 16 making the most of every opportunity, because the days are evil. 17 Therefore do not be foolish, but understand what the Lord's will is.

How to Choose the Right Opportunities

1. Pray for discernment.

Hebrews 5:14, Solid food is for those who are mature, who through training have the skill to recognize the difference between right and wrong.

2. Be led by the Spirit.

John 16:13, When the Spirit of truth comes, he will guide you into all truth. He will not speak on his own but will tell you what he has heard. He will tell you about the future.

3. Get good counsel.

Proverbs 12:15, Stupid people always think they are right. Wise people listen to advice.

4. Observe God's favor.

Zachariah 11:10, Then I took my staff called Favor and cut it in two, showing that I had revoked the covenant I had made with all the nations.