**Campus Midweek Series: The Time Has Come**

**This week: Kairos: God’s Time**

Our society is emerging from a time of trauma and shock greater than any since the late 1960s/1968 (Viet Nam, assassination of MLK, RFK, protests, hippie movement, drugs, etc..)

I lived through 9/11 That was traumatic, but this is much more so.

For us, it is a confluence of Covid-19, racial justice issues, the Jan 6 attempted coup/insurrection. Extreme political divisiveness. The fall of Afghanistan. Global weather events due to climate change. It has been crazy.

The “time” has come. Time:

More common *chronos* time of day, how much time do I have. Chronometer, chronology.

*Kairos* right time, opportune time, appointed time, at just the right time, special moment in God’s timing, God’s time.

A special moment is coming. Most people are simply in shock. Most have no plans. But God is always working. God’s mission is ongoing. This will be a moment—a *kairos.*

People will not go back to where they were. They will be looking for something new. We need to be praying about this and preparing to meet the moment. Let’s pray about this.

We are headed for a Kairos in our country/world, and in Bakersfield. We need to prepare for that moment in time.

But add to that, this is a kairos for all of you, simply because you are college students.

Ask any older adult—especially ones who went to college. This is YOUR TIME!!!!

This is your kairos. But I will get back to that.

This idea of God’s time, of God’s special prepared moment is biblical:

Mark 1:15 The time has come.

Matthew 26:18 My appointed time is near.

Mark 13:32-33 Be alert. You do not know when that time will come.

Luke 12:56 We need to know how to interpret the proper time.

John 7:6 My time has not yet come.

Romans 5:6 You see, at just the right time, when we were still powerless, Christ died for the ungodly.

Romans 13:11 We need to understand the present time we live in.

2 Cor 6:2 Now is the time of salvation. There are people out there whose time of salvation has come.

1 Pet 1:11 trying to find the time and circumstances to which the spirit of Christ in them was pointing.

Gal 6:9 At the proper time we will reap a harvest if we do not give up.

Old Testament version: Esther 4:14

My message tonight: 2021 will be a year of kairos for all of you. You are part of the missio Dei. God is working. He is creating just the right, appointed time.

You will make momentous decisions and changes.

You will shift direction dramatically.

Many will be different person at the end of the year than you are now.

What is your kairos? What does God have planned for you?

A Kairos for making a big decision in your life.

A kairos to repent generally or of a specific sin.

A kairos to choose a career that can be used on a mission team

A kairos to become a disciple of Jesus and to be baptized into Christ.

A kairos to go into Christian ministry

A kairos to move to Merced

Wed. we did a Bible talk on Ecclesiastes.

Solomon asked the big questions:

Why am I here? How did I get here? What is my purpose? What is the meaning of life? What is the nature of ultimate reality? What is the right thing to do? Where am I going?

Specifically, what is the meaning and purpose of life?

Ecc 1:1-11 Meaningless!!!

There is nothing new under the sun.

No one remembers the former generations.

In light of eternity, life “under the sun” is meaningless!

Ecc 1:12-18 Meaningless!!!

Wisdom is meaningless!

Getting a college degree is meaningless!

It is like chasing after the wind. If you catch the wind, it no longer exists.

v. 15 What is straight cannot be made straight.

The world will be as messed up when you leave it as when you entered it.

v. 18 The more wisdom, the more sorrow.

Ecc 2:1-11

Pleasure is meaningless. Solomon should know.

Accomplishments are meaningless. Solomon should know.

Ecc 2:12-23

v. 14 the same fate overtakes them all. In view of death, does it really matter?

v. 21 You leave it all to someone who may not deserve it at all. (Solomon should know… look at Rehoboam!)

But…

Ecc 12:1-7 Remember God when you are young!!!

Ecc 12:9-13 Fear God and keep his commandments.

THEN (and only then) life has meaning.

Then your accomplishments gains meaning

Then your wisdom gains meaning

Then even pleasure has meaning.

So, what do you want to do with your life?

NOW is the time. This is your kairos! Do not delay. Do not get distracted by classes, work, video games, pleasure, potential career.

What will God do through you?

I became a disciple 42 years ago. I never would have imagined….

This is your kairos.

This is your God-chosen time!

You need to grab the moment.

You need to sieze the time and opportunity.

Do not waste your youth/college years.

Discussion questions:

What can you see God doing through you?

What decision is God asking you to make tonight?