

Use “The Scene” to introduce “Using Time Wisely” the High School Sunday school lesson for January 10, 2016. The lesson is found on page 37 of *High School Teacher* by Standard Publishing.

the SCENE

Viewing the latest news through the lens of Scripture

“8 Skills of Organized People.” “6 Things Organized People Do Every Morning.” “14 Tips for Organizing Your Closet.” Just do an online search for organization tips and you’re bound to find 112 ways to make every corner of your life a bit tidier. At the beginning of the year, when people dream of being better versions of themselves (especially a version that can actually find their keys/hat/socks/pencil when needed), the organizing experts come out in full force—right behind the personal trainers, life coaches, and diet gurus. The following words are not necessarily from organizing experts, but offer some thoughts about organizing our time.

“Don’t start today by doing yesterday’s work.” —Deniece Schofield

“Organizing is what you do before you do something, so that when you do it, it is not all mixed up.”
—A. A. Milne

“The trouble with organizing a thing is that pretty soon folks get to paying more attention to the organization than to what they’re organized for.” —Laura Ingalls Wilder

“For every minute spent organizing, an hour is earned.” —Unknown

“It takes as much energy to wish as it does to plan.” —Eleanor Roosevelt

“You may delay, but time will not.” —Benjamin Franklin

“We have only today. Let us begin.” —Mother Teresa

“How did it get so late so soon?” —Dr. Seuss

“Keep watch, because you do not know on what day your Lord will come.” —Matthew 24:42 (NIV)

As students arrive, give each of them a copy of the above news story to read. After all teens have had the opportunity to read the article, discuss it in this way:

Which of the quotations above stands out to you? Why?

What is your biggest challenge when it comes to organizing your time? How have you dealt with that challenge?

If you had to produce a motto that would sum up your thoughts on organizing your life or how you use your time, what would it be? When you look at how you spend your days normally, what stands out as the activity that takes up most of your time? How do you feel about that?

When we look at the way we spend our time, we may wish to have some of our time back! The apostle Paul recognized the importance of the wise use of time. He warns us not to invest too heavily in three particular areas. Let’s discover what those are.