

Ron Armstrong • January 18 & 19, 2020
2020 Live Your Best Life: The Pendulum, Harvest, and
Perspective Principles for Your Decade

Ephesians 5:15 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.

Ecclesiastes 3:1 There is a time for everything, and a season for every activity under the heavens: **2** a time to be born and a time to die, a time to plant and a time to uproot, **3** a time to kill and a time to heal, a time to tear down and a time to build, **4** a time to weep and a time to laugh, a time to mourn and a time to dance, **5** a time to scatter stones and a time to gather them, a time to embrace and a time to refrain from embracing, **6** a time to search and a time to give up, a time to keep and a time to throw away, **7** a time to tear and a time to mend, a time to be silent and a time to speak, **8** a time to love and a time to hate, a time for war and a time for peace.

A. Pendulum principle: This is not going any higher than the energy you invest.

1. Your life requires your energy investment.
2. God is already doing his part by being ready to bless and MULTIPLY your effort/energy investment.
3. We invest through planning, prayer, wisdom, counsel, hard work, and SELF-DISCIPLINE.

B. Harvest principle: Invest your energy in the right season.

1. Great decision-makers are able to answer TWO questions:
 - a. What is the right decision?
 - b. Is this the right season?
2. Focused effort is AMPLIFIED by the right season, and focused effort can be wasted during the wrong one. Farmers and fishermen both understand this.
3. Since we are making this our decade, we don't need or want it to be the right season in all areas.
 - a. You usually can't put extraordinary effort into multiple areas at the same time.
 - b. The question, "Will it be difficult?" won't help you. Harvest times that really pay off will ALWAYS be difficult.
 - c. In determining the season, don't forget the impact on your FAMILY. Your family season matters too.

C. Perspective principle: A better time perspective can make you a decision-making star.

1. Let's see our lives with a IAPE measure.
2. Perspective will help us see the real size of our successes and failures.
 - a. A bad day is about 1/30th of an inch.
 - b. Your great GOLF score is less.
 - c. Some things you take for granted will ECHO throughout your life.
 - d. The LENGTH of the impact can help you separate what is truly important from what is merely urgent or noisy.
3. And what if we have faith to see eternity?