

“So be careful how you live. Don’t live like fools, but like those who are wise. Make the most of every opportunity in these evil days.” Ephesians 5:15-16 NLT

[lectio] // EPHESIANS 5:6-20

I don’t normally go all greek in these posts, but sometimes these ancient words are so cool that I just have to write about them. This word Paul uses for “redeeming” time or “making the most” out of an opportunity for example. Paul used common greek words that were pulled right from his culture and time, and he then applied those words to illustrate godly principles. BTW, Jesus did this as well! Here Paul uses the word redeem ἐξαγοραζόμενοι. We see the word redeem and we hear “Christ’s redemption” or today’s understanding, turning in a glass bottle for its “redemption” value of .05 cents. But in Paul’s day it was a shopping term! That’s right, a get-down-here in the open-air market and snag yourself a deal! So the word in Paul’s day carried the idea “buying up the opportunity.” Isn’t that cool! Do you hear that business edge to his words, that coupon-shopper, that let’s make a deal mindset? It’s like Paul is declaring a fire sale on God opportunities to love and do good in a very dark, very broken world! It’s like, who would pass up that deal? It’s better than group on, mecari or facebook marketplace - it’s red hot, get it NOW!

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Dad,

There are few things MORE thrilling than being in sync with your Spirit. There is a rush of emotions and joy when I dance with you without forcing to lead or stepping on your toes. Paul captured that, he lived that. What does it look like to search for life-giving, buy up the opportunity moments to BE Jesus to a broken soul? I want it everyday, I need to learn to “shopper-search” for it to grab the best eternal deals!

[contemplatio]

rest in the presence of God, allowing the words revealed to take root