

Did you know that the world population is over 7,600,000,000? Different nationalities, languages, cultures, ages, shapes, sizes, beliefs, opinions – and many more differences. Despite all of these differences there is one thing that is common to every one of them and that is the speed at which time passes. We may sometimes feel that time goes faster or slower, but in reality it goes at exactly the same speed all of the time for all of us.



When we are lying awake at night, tossing and turning and unable to get to sleep, time seems to drag and the fingers of the clock go so very slowly around the dial. If we are awaiting a special event, the days seem to last for ever and I am quite certain that for children who have a birthday near or it is drawing near to Christmas Day, the time must seem endless.

There are other occasions when we do not have enough time to do the things that we need to do and we are rushing round like mad. If we are expecting visitors or folk who are going to stay with us for a few days we can struggle to make sure that everything is crossed off our job list and everywhere is spick and span before their arrival.



A very difficult thing for us to grasp is that our God is timeless. For Him there is no beginning and no ending and that is beyond our comprehension. He was there before creation and will always be there when the physical world as we know it, will have come to an end. I wonder how He thought about creating time? I wonder if He changed His mind every now and then when He was deciding how long a minute or an hour would be? Regardless of whether we feel that time is passing too fast or too slow, we know that as the clock ticks, God's timing for everything is perfect – even if it does not always appear to be like that to us.



We can read of one incident in the Bible when God caused the day to lengthen. Joshua prayed to God and asked Him to give them more time to defeat their enemies and it says, 'The sun stayed in the midst of heaven and did not hasten to go down for about a whole day. There has been no day like it before or since.' I suppose that it would be a very chaotic world if we could all pray that God would give us extra hours or days!

Do we use the time we have wisely? I don't know about you but, one thing that I sometimes have difficulty with is in deciding if I am meant to spend time doing a particular thing. For instance, I may have an idea that I think would be helpful to the church, but sometimes am not certain if it is a **GOOD** idea that I have had or if it is a **GOD** idea that **HE** has put into my mind. It may be very helpful to do something, but, if that idea is not of God then we can be committing ourselves to something that takes up too much of our time and does not leave us with time to do the things that God has in mind for us. Is it **GOOD** or is it **GOD**? A very important issue to decide before taking on any new venture.

Good or God???



Hurry
Hurry
Hurry
Hurry
Hurry



HURRY

HURRY



I knelt to pray, but not for long
I had too much to do
Must hurry off and get to work
For bills would soon be due
And as I said a hurried prayer
Jumped up from off my knee
My Christian duty now was done
My soul could be at ease
All through the day I had no time
To speak a word of cheer
No time to speak of Christ to friend
They'd laugh at me I feared
No time – no time, too much to do
That was my constant cry
No time to give to those in need
At last it was time to die
And when before the Lord I came
I stood with downcast eyes
Within his hand he held a book
It was the Book of life
He looked in the book and said
Your name I cannot find
I once was going to write it down
But never found the time

Writer – Anonymous

God asks us for some of our time in order that we might build up a relationship with Him. If we have a job and family commitments then obviously there is not as much time available as there would be if these were not part of our lives. We are all different and it is up to each one of us to work out how best we can connect with God with regard to our time. We may go through times when it is not very easy for us to pray, but God knows about that and understands – as long as it is not used as an excuse day after day, week after week. He is the One who has given us time and He helps us to put it to best use, which naturally includes time with Him, in order to find out exactly what that 'best use' includes.

Time. Tick-tock. Tick-tock. Tick-tock.

Ticking at the same rate for every one of us.

Not going faster or slower.

Not adjustable.

Same steady pace.



Church News: Pastor Jim Lowe appointed as Senior Minister. Start date not yet fixed.