



Christmas Timing? 2012

How important is timing? Well, how important is the timing between a quarterback and his receiver during the last play of a tied Super Bowl game? How important is timing between the cylinders in your car or your hand-eye coordination in heavy traffic as you transport your family? How important is timing to a doctor during a lung transplant or the beat of your own heart? How important is timing for the conductor of an orchestra? How important is timing between a husband and wife, the conception of a child or when sharing appropriate words to a grieving parent?

If timing is of vital importance to us in every area of life, it is infinitely more so to our sovereign Father, the Creator of time!

*“But when the **fullness of the time** came, God sent forth His Son...”* Galatians 4:4

*“While they were there, the **days were completed** for her to give birth. And she gave birth to her firstborn son...”* Luke 2:6-7

*“Jesus came preaching the Gospel of God saying, ‘**The time is fulfilled, and the kingdom of God is at hand; repent and believe in the gospel.**’”* Mark 1:14-15

*“For while we were still helpless, at **just the right time** Christ died for the ungodly...”* Romans 5:6

*“For **it is time** to seek the LORD until He comes...”* Hosea 10:12

*“You are my God; **My times are in Your hand.**”* Psalm 31:14-15

*“Behold, **now is ‘the acceptable time,’ behold, now is ‘the day of salvation.’**”* II Cor 6:2

*“Therefore let us draw near with confidence to the throne of grace, so that we may receive mercy and find grace to help **in time of need.**”* Hebrews 4:16

Christmas is all about the timing of God. At just the right moment, Christ was born as our Savior according to the promises of the Father. At just the right time God crushed His Son under the weight of our sin (Is 53:5, 10) and raised Him back to life in order to give us eternal hope grounded in His solid character. So especially during this time of year, let every Christmas carol you hear, every decoration you see, every present you receive, every gift you give, every memory you hold, every friend you greet, and every family member you embrace be a reminder that our gracious God is never early, never late and is fully in control of each moment, every nano second even when we don't understand.

The Staff and Core Brothers of Focused Living Ministries want to wish you a Merry Christmas! Through the good times and hard times of this past year we have witnessed His faithfulness in the lives of hundreds of men whom He is drawing near to Christ. And in the coming years we will seek his steadfast wisdom, grace and guidance until He calls us home.

Stunned by His Glory, amazed by His timing, Perry Bowers and David Andes

