

A rustic wooden cross is constructed from two weathered logs. The vertical post is anchored into a large, dark, textured tree stump in the foreground. The horizontal beam is also a log, secured to the vertical post with some dark, fibrous material. The background is a soft-focus, misty forest with green trees under a pale, overcast sky.

Ephesians

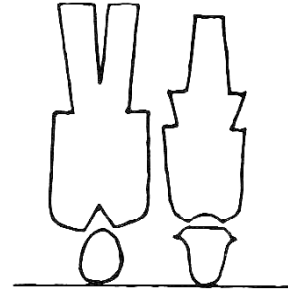
united
by the moment

The Three Stages of Marriage
(and some words and ideas that go with these stages)¹³



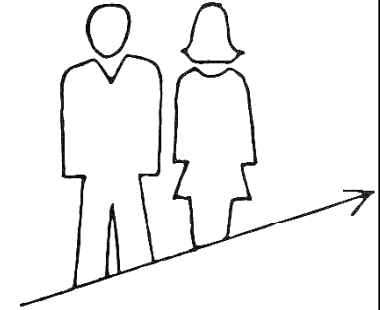
Enchantment

On Cloud 9
Perfect
Just right
Forever
Infatuated
Idolize
Numb
Fascinated
Charmed
Captivated
Ecstasy
Thrilled
Preoccupied
We've arrived



Disenchantment

Upset
Terrible
Absolutely wrong
I quit
Hurt
Put down
Splintered
Irritated
Wretched
Burdened
Uncomfortable
Bitter
Trapped
We'll never make it



Maturity

Feet on the ground
I need you
How do you see it?
Let's work it out
I'll help you
Encourage
Whole
Refreshed
Thankful
Free
Comfortable
Friendly
Growing
Together, we can make it

Time, if managed well and if understood, will take us to a point where we reap the benefits and rewards of what we did when time seemed against us and nothing seemed to be working. These are moments used well.

A wooden cross is the central focus, standing on a large, weathered tree stump. The background shows a dense forest with green trees under a bright sky. The text is overlaid on the cross and stump.

Bible Reference:

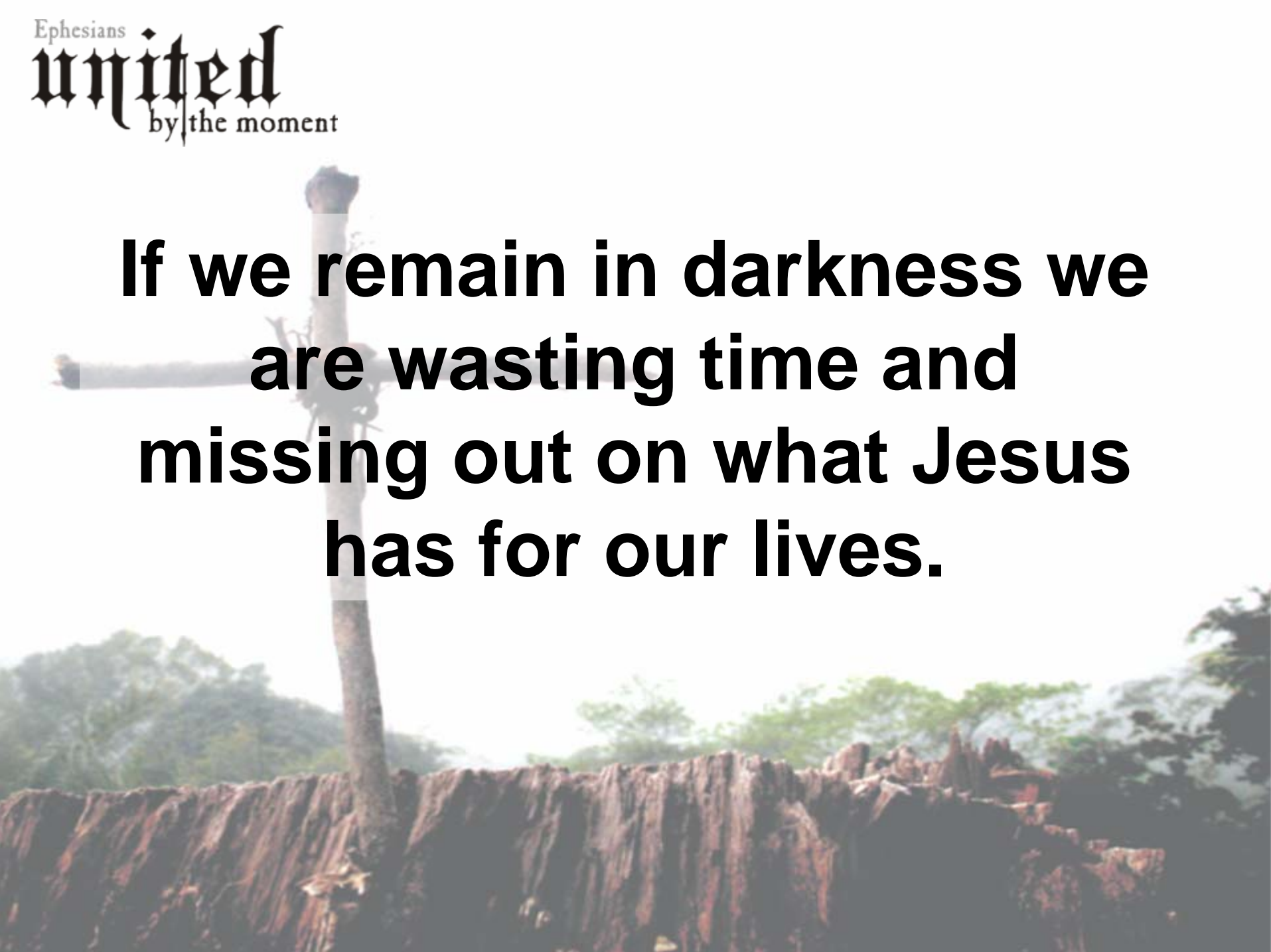
Ephesians 5:6-21

***“The light shines in the
darkness, and the darkness
has not overcome it.”***

John 1:5 (ESV)

“For everyone who does wicked things hates the light and does not come to the light, lest his works should be exposed.”

John 3:20 (ESV)




**If we remain in darkness we
are wasting time and
missing out on what Jesus
has for our lives.**

“You groped your way through that murk once, but no longer. You’re out in the open now. The bright light of Christ makes your way plain. So no more stumbling around. Get on with it! The good, the right, the true—these are the actions appropriate for daylight hours. Figure out what will please Christ, and then do it. Don’t waste your time on useless work, mere busywork, the barren pursuits of darkness. Expose these things for the sham they are. It’s a scandal when people waste their lives on things they must do in the darkness where no one will see. Rip the cover off those frauds and see how attractive they look in the light of Christ.”

Ephesians 5:8-13 (The Message)

To Make The Moments Matter...

**1. Let Jesus expose
the real you.**

A wooden cross stands on a large, weathered tree stump in a forest. The background is a soft-focus view of trees and a bright sky. The text is overlaid on the image.

***“Take no part in the
unfruitful works of
darkness, but instead
expose them.”***

Ephesians 5:11 (ESV)

To Make The Moments Matter...

**2. Let Jesus shape
the real you.**

**With your commitment
to Him comes His
commitment to you
to do a good work
within you.**

“And I am sure that God, who began the good work within you, will continue his work until it is finally finished on that day when Christ Jesus comes back again.”

Philippians 1:6 (NLT)

“Look carefully then how you walk, not as unwise but as wise, making the best use of the time, because the days are evil. Therefore do not be foolish, but understand what the will of the Lord is.”

Ephesians 5:15-17 (ESV)

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Ephesians 5:15-17 (ESV)