

## **Time 4: The Preciousness of Time**

### **Thought For The Day: BBC Radio Jersey Oct 17th 2013 @ 8.30am**

A survey from Eastern College, Pennsylvania asked 95 year olds this question. "If you could live your life again what would you do differently?" Three answers were dominant in their responses.

#### 1. Reflect more.

These seniors said they would take more time to think about what was going on in their lives and establish well-thought-out priorities. They would spend more time working out what is really important in the demands of life, family and work. They have been too busy doing.

#### 2. Risk more.

These wonderful aged human beings said they would have taken more chances in life. If they could re-live their lives they wouldn't be so scared to take risks. They would have developed more courage to venture out of their comfort zones.

#### 3. They would do more things that would live on after they had died.

They wanted to know that their lives counted for something, that after they left this world their impact would live on.

The later was the experience of a wealthy Scandinavian chemist who had amassed a fortune in developing high explosives, including Dynamite and built up companies and laboratories in more than 20 countries. A national newspaper incorrectly printed their prepared obituary, which came as quite a shock to the chemist who read it one day over his breakfast!

What shocked him more was how he was remembered. It recounted his technical achievements, his entrepreneurial skills, his fortune, but nothing of his relationships with fellow man. So shocked was he by this omission that he resolved to redirect his energies and resources while he still could. His name was Alfred Nobel and he founded the Nobel institute.

Perhaps we all can learn something from these 95 year olds: To Reflect more, Risk more and Invest more in those things that would continue after we are dead.

Lord God, for our gifts of time, money and energy we give you thanks. Help us like Christ to know what is really important, risk more and think about our legacy.

And for the 95 year olds or older who are listening, do continue to pass on your wisdom.