

Do not withhold good from those who deserve it when it's in your power to help them. If you can help your neighbor now, don't say, "Come back tomorrow, and then I'll help you." Proverbs 3:27-28 (NLT)

Do It Now

Don't delay. Don't put off the good that you can do today for tomorrow. Don't ask others to come back tomorrow for what you can do for them right now. You have today. You have right now. Make the best use of the time that you have been given. Bear all the fruit for me that you can right now. Don't leave any of your debts unpaid. Don't leave any of your responsibilities unfilled. Do all that you are able to do as soon as you are able to do it. Do you understand why what I am asking you to do is so important? I think so. **Tell me why.** I have today. I don't know what tomorrow will bring. You may have a plan for tomorrow that will not leave time to do what you want me to do today. **Yes, that's true. What else?** If I put off doing what is good and right and fair today I may forget to do it tomorrow. It's easy to walk away from debts and responsibilities one day at a time. The day of doing what is good and right and fair may never come. **That's right. Have you ever slowly walked away from your debts and responsibilities one day at a time? Have you ever rationalized why you no longer have to repay your debts and fulfill your responsibilities? Have you ever lost the urgency of doing what is good and right and fair because you made it your plan to do it tomorrow?** You know the answers to these questions. Yes, I have slowly walked away from debts and responsibilities one day at a time. Yes, I have allowed delay to aid me in rationalizing why I no longer owe a debt or need to fulfill a responsibility. Yes, I have erased the urgency of doing what is good and right and fair by planning to do it tomorrow or the next day or certainly the next day after that. **Those days of doing what is good and right and fair never came, did they?** No, they did not.

What kind of witness will you be for me if you delay doing what is good and right and fair? What kind of witness will you be for me if you don't repay your debts or fulfill your responsibilities? I will be a poor witness for you. I will have a faith that is not attractive. I will have a faith that no one will want. Rather than attract people to you, I will push people away from you. **You don't want that.** No, I do not. When I quickly do what is good and right and fair I will be a bold and bright witness for you. When I obey you my life will bear an abundance of fruit for your kingdom. I will bring glory to your name. **Yes, you will.** That is what I want. **That is what you will have as you follow and obey me.**

Lord, there have been many times I have delayed doing what is good, right and fair. I have made others wait for what I could have done right away. Forgive me. I will now obey you and do immediately whatever good I am able to do for others. Amen

If *Your Power To Act*

Do not withhold good from those who deserve it, when it is in your power to act. Do not say to your neighbor, "Come back later; I'll give it tomorrow"--when you now have it with you.

NIV Proverbs 3:27-28

If *Your Power To Do It*

Do not withhold good from those to whom it is due, when it is in your power to do it. Do not say to your neighbor, "Go, and come again, tomorrow I will give it"—when you have it with you.

ESV Proverbs 3:27-28

If *You Can Help*

Do not withhold good from those who deserve it when it's in your power to help them. If you can help your neighbor now, don't say, "Come back tomorrow, and then I'll help you."

NLT Proverbs 3:27-28

If *In The Power Of Your Hand*

Do not withhold good from those to whom it is due, When it is in the power of your hand to do so. Do not say to your neighbor, "Go, and come back, And tomorrow I will give it," When you have it with you.

NKJV Proverbs 3:27-28

If *In Your Power*

Do not withhold good from those to whom it is due, when it is in your power to do it. Do not say to your neighbor, "Go, and come again, tomorrow I will give it"—when you have it with you.

NRSV Proverbs 3:27-28

If *Your Hand Is God's Hand*

Never walk away from someone who deserves help; your hand is God's hand for that person. Don't tell your neighbor, "Maybe some other time," or, "Try me tomorrow," when the money's right there in your pocket.

MSG Proverbs 3:27-28

If *In The Power Of Your Hand*

Withhold not good from those to whom it is due [its rightful owners], when it is in the power of your hand to do it. Do not say to your neighbor, Go, and come again; and tomorrow I will give it—when you have it with you.

AMP Proverbs 3:27-28

If *You Can Pay Now*

Don't withhold repayment of your debts. Don't say "some other time," if you can pay now.

TLB Proverbs 3:27-28

If *Your Power To Do It*

Do not withhold good from those to whom it is due, When it is in your power to do it. Do not say to your neighbor, "Go, and come back, And tomorrow I will give it," When you have it with you.

NASB Proverbs 3:27-28

If *You Have What Your Neighbor Asks For*

Whenever you are able, do good to people who need help. If you have what your neighbor asks for, don't say, "Come back later. I will give it to you tomorrow."

NCV Proverbs 3:27-28

You Can Help

Year _____ Week _____ Day _____ Date _____

If – Proverbs 3:27-28

In Context: *Read Proverbs 3*

Begin With Prayer:

Here I am Lord. I Am Listening.

Meditating On God’s Word: ***(What is God speaking to your heart?)***

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Considering The Words: ***(What words speak to your heart?)***

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Praying The Scripture:

(What prayer from your heart will you write?)

Lord, there have been many times I have delayed doing what is good, right and fair. I have made others wait for what I could have done right away. Forgive me. I will now obey you and do immediately whatever good I am able to do for others. Amen

What It Means:

(What questions speak to your heart?) *(Suggested questions for small group discussion are in bold)*

When has someone delayed doing the good, right and fair thing that they could have done for your right away?
How has one of your relationships been strained because someone delayed doing for you what was good, right and fair?

Why are there no positive benefits and many liabilities in delaying doing what is good, right and fair?

Why is delaying doing what is good, right and fair an example of clearly disobeying the Lord?

When have you suffered because you did not quickly do what was good, right and fair for another person?

Why will people judge the quality of your character based on how quickly you do what is good, right and fair?

How has the Lord blessed your life as you have quickly done for others what was good, right and fair?

Living It Out:

(What action step is God guiding your heart to take?)

Quickly do for others, without delay, whatever is good, right and fair.

Seeing It Happen:

(What are you trusting God for in your heart?)

Have faith that the Lord will bless your life as you quickly do for others what is good, right and fair.

Get Ready To Share:

(What can you share with others from your heart?)

Share with another person or your small group how quickly doing what is good, right and fair has blessed your life.

Close With Prayer:

Quiet Yourself Before The Lord

Pause And Offer Prayers Of...

With An Attitude Of Faith Listen To What The Lord Wants To Say To You

Adoration... _____

Thanksgiving... _____

Confession... _____

Intercession... _____

Petition... _____

Journal

As You Quiet Yourself Before The Lord

What Do You Want To Say To Me Lord?

What Prayers Are You Praying Today?

Prayer Of Blessing

(What Prayer Of Blessing Can You Pray For Another?)

May you help your neighbor right now by doing whatever good you have the power to do for them.

Prayer To Carry

(What Prayer Would You Like To Carry Throughout Your Day?)

Lord, I will do the good that I am able to do for my neighbor right now without any delay.

What Do You Want To Remember About Today?

A Question To Ask God

(What Would You Like To Ask God?)

Lord, what good can I do for my neighbor right now without any delay?
