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IA Forum

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Why do we have summer break? Schools used to go year-round. There are a myriad of reasons historically that the summer months were designated as breaks.

How many times have you been excited for the start of summer, then excited for school at the end of the summer?

Many are pushing for year-round school again—mainly because students lose knowledge over the summer.

Between May 13th and August 15th (the day of orientation), there are 87 days—twelve weeks and three days; 2088 hours; 125,280 minutes; 7,516,800 seconds; 24% of the year. SEP is only three weeks of that; you still have 1584 yours of free time for other things. What are you going to do with them?

Make a good summer plan. If you don't have goals, the days and weeks will slip by, and you wont be happy at the end of the summer. If you set goals and plan, you will be able to accomplish a lot more. You should be able to look back on your summer with satisfaction!

A person that sets lofty goals and aims high puts that goal above everything else.That is the only wary to achieve high spiritual goals: Seek those goals first, no matter what comes. Set goals that push yourself.

Proverbs 6:6

[6] Go to the ant, thou sluggard; consider her ways, and be wise: [7] Which having no guide, overseer, or ruler, [8] Provideth her meat in the summer, and gathereth her food in the harvest.

We all tend to be lazy. This verse is talking to us! It tells us how to avoid falling into that trap. It specifically mentions how busy the ant is during summer.

It all boils down to WORK—that is the foundation on which everything else is built. Set a high goal; push yourself beyond what you would normally do. Push yourself to accomplish something that will satisfy you.

Don't let your education stop with the summer! Use it as a chance to educate yourself in a new skill you wouldn't otherwise have learned.

[7] Which having no guide, overseer, or ruler,

The ant has no boss telling them what to do; he pushes himself. He works hard whenever 'school is out'. Our time is precious! Your time is your life, and how you use that time shows how much you care about life!

You can accomplish a lot a little at a time if you dedicate time to it consistently. [Pushing to the Front, Orison Swett Marden]

One hour a day would allow anyone to master a skill, educate themselves, or become a success. You have 2088 hours at your disposal. Devote a few to developing yourself.

Example goals:

- Look at the Future Husbands and Helpmeets handout and pick two-to-three goals to accomplish before SEP.
- Develop an interest or a hobby—especially ones that gets you outside.

(I.e. Running, swimming, cycling, horseback riding, painting, drawing, sewing, learn a foreign language, wood-working, etc.)

- Have a no-media summer.

Expand your definition of "relaxing" to more than just watching TV.

- Set some reading goals.

Participate in this summer's Summer Reading Challenge.

- Set Bible study goals.
- Keep a journal.

If you do watch a movie or TV, try journaling about it—what you could learn from it.

- Visit a senior in your congregation.

If you're wasting time, you're wasting life, and life is the most precious thing God has given you. Go forward and DO something with your summer.