

## Ball Control

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The theory of a ball control offense is simple. When a team throws an incomplete pass, the clock stops. But when a team runs the ball without going out of bounds, the clock keeps running. A ball-control team wants to use up the clock by running the ball most of the time. This not only keeps the clock moving, but the high number of running plays has the added effect of wearing out the opposing defense. The theory is simple: The longer you keep the other team's offense off the field, the less likely they are to score on your team.

In life, we have an opposing coach, Satan, who employs this ball-control offense against us. His goal is to wreck as many people's lives as possible and keep them from knowing about God. The enemy knows that he doesn't have to beat us if he can simply keep us busy. He knows we have only 75-80 years to live, and if he can tie up much of our time doing trivial things, he can effectively run out the clock on our life and keep us from carrying out God's plans for us.

How often do we find ourselves without any time? We get wrapped up in working long hours, running errands, doing yard work, shopping, watching television, doing Facebook, or exploring the internet. Because of this, we end up with limited time for family and friends. We skip church because we don't have time. We don't read the Bible because we are too tired. We lose touch with old friends. We miss opportunities to reach out to those in need. Our potential is lost because we are side-tracked from spending time with some of the more important things in life.

God's game plan for us is to defeat the enemy in his attempt to run out the clock of our life. To do this, we need to make the most of our opportunities and not get tied up with busyness. We need to love on other people and use the gifts God has given us. We need to forgive others, love our families, and love our friends. We need to enjoy success in life by spending time on things that make a difference in people's lives.

Don't let the enemy run out your clock. Seize the day!

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“Be very careful, then, how you live—not as unwise but as wise, making the most of every opportunity, because the days are evil.” (Ephesians 5:15)