

Opportunities come and go. I wish I could recapture more than a few. I wish I would have learned speed reading (I buy or pick up more books than I actually get around to reading). I also wish I had taken a course or two in a few different languages, like Spanish. That would have been so helpful as I pray with our brothers from El Calvario on Saturday mornings. Then there were opportunities to help more people to understand and use their spiritual gifts and plug into very practical ministries. If I were in my 30's again I would like to think I would teach other dads to lead classes on being the dad God intended them to be, rather than just teach the class myself.

Yes, opportunities come and go. Why didn't I do more? Jesus was kind and very clear when his fully devoted followers had a similar question on their minds after a clearly blown opportunity.

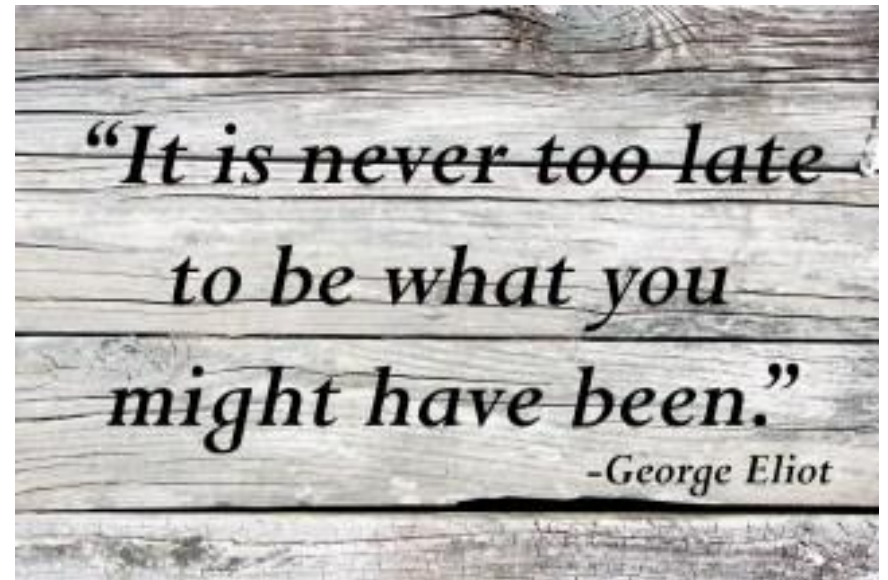
***Disappointment:***

***Embarrassed and confused:***

***Reminded:***

## ***Personal Applications and Conversations***

1. Describe an opportunity missed that lingers in your memory.
2. How do you think Jesus expresses any disappointment with you? Is that a fair question for those who are his dearly loved and forgiven children?
3. In their embarrassment, the disciples asked Jesus, “*Why couldn’t we drive [the demon] out?*” What do your questions reveal about you?
4. Jesus answered their why question, “because you have so little faith.” We learned that the word, “*oligopista*” refers to their poverty of faith. What is that and how do you relate to that analysis?



***“Why couldn’t we...” have done more?***

**Mt. 17:14-21; Mk. 9:14-29; Lk. 9:37-42**

**Pastor John Ploog  
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