

DISCUSSION GUIDE

DON'T WASTE YOUR LIFE
The Gospel of John — Week 23

ICEBREAKER: If you had the ability to compete in the Olympics, what event would you want to be in?

OVERVIEW: Your time on earth is limited. You will not live on this earth forever; and you will only live once. And your time on earth is short. 75 to 100 years if you're lucky, and that is not long. Time flies. And the older you get, the faster time flies. As well, the Bible teaches us that there is an afterlife – a heaven and a hell – and that what we do in this life determines our eternal destiny. This is why it is essential that you don't waste your life. In this study we will talk about making the most of our time on earth.

1. What insight, principle, or observation from this weekend's message did you find to be the most helpful, eye-opening, or troubling? Explain. (Or what was your key takeaway from Sunday's message?)
2. Read John 6:16-21. Before Christ boarded the boat, the disciples were struggling against the wind and the waves. According to Matthew 14:32, as soon as Jesus boarded their boat, the wind immediately stopped. This illustrates the truth that life is much easier with Jesus. Would you agree that life is easier as a devoted Christ-follower? Explain.
3. The story also tells us that the disciples were traveling very slowly due to the wind and the waves, but when Christ boarded, they made it to their destination instantly. This illustrates another truth -- you can travel much faster with Christ. How does Christian devotion help you to reach green pastures and quiet waters faster?

4. Read John 6:27. People often waste their lives by working "for the food that perishes." What is "the food that perishes"? Why do people devote their lives to gaining these things even though they don't last?
5. To make the most of our lives, we must work "for the food that lasts for eternal life, which the Son of Man will give you (v. 27)." What is the food that lasts for eternal life?
6. Read John 6:28-29. How do we work for the food that lasts for eternal life? Does this mean that faith is a good work? Explain.
7. Read John 6:34-35. What does it mean that Jesus is the bread of life? What does it mean that those who come to Him will never be hungry or thirsty again?
8. Is it possible for someone to be saved and yet waste their life? Explain.
9. What are some steps you can take to make sure that you make the most of your time on earth?

The Last Word: "He is no fool who gives what he cannot keep to gain what he cannot lose." Jim Elliot