

Discussion Guide

Use this guide by yourself, with a friend, or in a group to help you pursue a deeper relationship with Jesus this week!

Open

Today Pastor Don reminds us that eventually each person who follows Jesus will be required to give an accounting for the way he or she leads their lives. In our main passage (1 Corinthians 3:10-23), the image the Bible uses is that of a house which is being built on the secure foundation of trusting our lives to Jesus. And while we can count on the fact that the foundation of our faith in Jesus is stable and strong, Paul is writing here to remind us that we still have a responsibility to build lives that are in keeping with His desires for us. To get your group started, let everyone share about something they made as a child that they were proud of...

BIG THOUGHT

Making the choice to trust in Jesus' sacrifice for our sins puts us in a right relationship with God, but we also need to make sure that our daily choices and actions clearly reflect His desires for us.

1. Read 1 Corinthians 3:10. What does Paul call himself in this verse? Is he claiming to have done everything necessary for the Corinthian believers to become mature in their faith? What else does he say needs to happen?
2. Now read v. 11. Why do you think Paul wants to be clear that the foundation of our faith can only be Jesus (instead of tradition, rules, morality, etc.)? Have you met anyone before (or maybe it was your own experience) who maybe even went to church but had a foundation other than Jesus for their spirituality? Explain.

3. What does v. 12 say are some of the "materials" that we can use as we build our lives on Christ? What activities do you think would classify as gold, silver, and jewels? What activities do you think would classify as wood, hay, or straw? What do you think Paul is trying to get us to understand here?
4. Now read v. 13. How does it make you feel to know that there will be a "judgment day" of accountability? When you think of the effect of fire on the different materials that Paul listed, what do you think he's trying to help us understand?
5. In v. 14-15 Paul gives what standard for judging the quality of our life's achievements? What warning is Paul giving in v. 15?
6. How does Paul's focus in these verses line up with Jesus' teaching in Matthew 7:24-27?

Take it Further

Would you say your life in Christ is building things that will last (gold, silver, and jewels)? Or are you more constructing a life of things that will pass (wood, hay, and stubble)? Ask God to give you the wisdom to see your life from His perspective, and the courage to change.

Daily Readings

Day 1: 2 Timothy 2:15a
Day 2: James 1:22
Day 3: 1 Peter 1:14-16

Day 4: John 14:15
Day 5: Philippians 3:14
Day 6: 2 Timothy 2:22

Memory Verses: 1 Corinthians 3:12-13



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