



Your church name

# John Piper: Don't Waste Your Life

## Weekly Devotional Journey

### Monday - The Weight of One Life

#### Morning Devotion

##### Today's Verse

Psalm 90:12 - 'So teach us to number our days that we may get a heart of wisdom.'

##### Devotional Thought

At seventeen, something awakened in me that has never died - the wonder and weight of having one life to live, then eternity. No second chances, no retakes, no do-overs. Just one life, and then its outcome forever. This reality should grip every heart with holy urgency. We're not merely existing or drifting through our days; we're living with eternal consequences. The question that should drive us isn't just 'What happened?' but 'What's the purpose? What's the point of it all?' This hour, this moment, this conversation - why? When we truly grasp that we have only one life, everything changes. We stop coasting and start living with intentional purpose.

##### Reflection Question

How does recognizing the weight and wonder of having 'one life to live' change your perspective on today's choices and priorities?

**From Sunday's Sermon**

"I've got one life one life and I can blow it forever or not... don't waste it this is just all you've got and then the outcome and that's all you've got just one and then the outcome."

**Today's Application**

Write down three areas where you've been 'coasting' instead of living purposefully. Ask God to awaken in you the same holy urgency about the weight of your one life. Make one specific change today that reflects eternal perspective rather than temporary comfort.

**Morning Prayer**

Father, awaken in me a deep sense of the weight and wonder of this one life You've given me. Help me never to waste it on trivial pursuits or mindless drifting. Give me wisdom to number my days and live with eternity in view. Show me Your purpose for my life, and grant me courage to pursue it with all my heart. Amen.

**Evening Devotion****The Quest for Purpose****Evening Reflection**

The burning question isn't just where we came from, but where we're going and why. Purpose matters more than origin when it comes to living meaningfully. The German language captures this beautifully - 'warum' asks why something happened, but 'wozu' asks what's the purpose, what's the point. We need to be 'wozu' people, constantly asking: What should happen here? What's the big point of this moment? What ripple effect do I want from my life that will last forever?

**Evening Reflection**

What 'wozu' question is God asking you to wrestle with right now in your current season of life?

### Evening Prayer

Lord, make me a person who seeks Your purpose in every moment. Help me move beyond just understanding what has happened to embracing what You want to accomplish through my life. Give me clarity about the 'why' behind my existence and the courage to live it out boldly. Amen.

## Tuesday - Mastered by a Few Great Things

### Morning Devotion

#### Today's Verse

1 Corinthians 2:2 - 'For I decided to know nothing among you except Jesus Christ and him crucified.'

#### Devotional Thought

You don't have to know a lot of things for your life to make a huge difference. The people who leave a durable impact aren't necessarily the smartest or most comprehensive thinkers. They're the ones mastered by a few great, majestic, unchanging, glorious things. You don't need a high IQ, good looks, or riches - in fact, these can often get in the way. You don't need to come from a fine family or attend prestigious schools. But you absolutely must know a few great things and be set on fire by them. This is what makes a life count for eternity - not breadth of knowledge, but depth of conviction about what truly matters.

#### Reflection Question

What are the 'few great things' that currently master your heart and drive your decisions?

**From Sunday's Sermon**

"You don't have to know a lot of things for your life to make a huge difference... you have to be Mastered by a few things a few great things if you want your life to count."

**Today's Application**

Identify one 'great thing' that God is calling you to go deeper with rather than broader. Spend focused time this week studying, meditating on, and being 'set on fire' by this truth. Let it master you rather than trying to master everything else.

**Morning Prayer**

God, help me resist the temptation to know everything and instead be mastered by the few great truths You want to burn in my heart. Show me what deserves my deepest attention and passionate pursuit. Set me on fire with Your truth so that my life counts for eternity. Amen.

**Evening Devotion****The Foundation of All Purpose****Evening Reflection**

There is an absolutely sovereign, transcendentally pure, self-existing, all-satisfying God whose name is simply 'I AM.' When Moses asked God's name, the answer changed everything: 'Tell them I AM sent you.' This God had no beginning, will have no ending, depends on nothing, controls everything. If such a God exists - and He does - then He alone must define the purpose of life. We cannot decide what to do with our lives in view of His sheer existence. He's God; we're absolutely dependent on Him for everything.

**Evening Reflection**

How does the reality of God as 'I AM' challenge any areas where you've been trying to define your own purpose apart from Him?

### Evening Prayer

I AM, You are God and I am not. I acknowledge my complete dependence on You for everything - my breath, my purpose, my very existence. Help me live in the reality of who You are, not in the illusion of my own self-sufficiency. Define my life according to Your perfect will. Amen.

## Wednesday - God's Radically God-Exalting Purpose

### Morning Devotion

#### Today's Verse

Isaiah 43:7 - 'Everyone who is called by my name, whom I created for my glory, whom I formed and made.'

#### Devotional Thought

Here's the first life-defining discovery: God created the universe to display His glory for the everlasting, ever-increasing enjoyment of His redeemed people. This is radically God-exalting, and it divides people. Either you find God's God-centered purpose exhilarating, or you're angered by it. Very few remain neutral. For over forty years, this truth has been both theologically central and emotionally thrilling. God wants to be known truly and treasured duly. The value of His glory is reflected in how much we treasure it. If anything has more of our heart and passion, it is glorified above Him. This isn't boring doctrine - it should make us soar!

#### Reflection Question

Do you find God's God-exalting purpose for the universe exhilarating or threatening? What does your honest response reveal about your heart?

**From Sunday's Sermon**

"God's God exalting purpose for the universe causes me to soar I love to think about this... I just love to think about God's godness God's being the point of the universe."

**Today's Application**

Spend time meditating on Isaiah 43:7 and other 'for my glory' passages in Scripture. Ask God to help you find His God-centeredness exhilarating rather than threatening. Practice making His glory the conscious goal of one ordinary activity today.

**Morning Prayer**

Father, forgive me for the times I've found Your God-centeredness boring or threatening instead of exhilarating. Help me treasure You so deeply that Your glory is reflected in my life. Make me passionate about Your purpose for the universe and eager to join You in it. Let Your glory be my greatest joy. Amen.

**Evening Devotion****Treasuring God's Glory****Evening Reflection**

God doesn't get honor if we find His glory boring, no matter how much we know about Him. In fact, the more we know, the worse it reflects on Him if we're bored. He reveals His glory not for our mere intellectual understanding, but for our treasuring, valuing, and enjoying. When we find supreme satisfaction in Him above everything else on earth, we reflect back to Him the infinite worth of His beauty. This is why He does everything - so that we might receive, treasure, and marvel at the riches of His glory.

**Evening Reflection**

In what ways might you be honoring God with your knowledge but dishonoring Him with your affections?

**Evening Prayer**

Lord, don't let me be content with knowing about You while remaining bored by You. Kindle in my heart a fire of delight and satisfaction in Your glory. Help me treasure You above everything else so that my life reflects Your infinite worth to a watching world. Amen.

**Thursday - The Obstacle and the Solution****Morning Devotion****Today's Verse**

2 Corinthians 4:4-6 - 'The god of this world has blinded the minds of the unbelievers, to keep them from seeing the light of the gospel of the glory of Christ, who is the image of God.'

**Devotional Thought**

Here's the massive obstacle: I hate God, want to be God, and live for myself. Self-denial isn't in my bones. I want nobody telling me what to do, love, or value. Meanwhile, God's wrath rests on me because of this rebellion. How can God's purpose ever be achieved? Enter the second discovery: Jesus Christ not only becomes the means of seeing and savoring God's glory, but in overcoming these obstacles, He becomes the apex of that glory. The grace displayed in Christ crucified is the peak of God's glory. Before the universe existed, grace was given to us in Christ Jesus. The cross wasn't Plan B - it was the point of creation.

**Reflection Question**

How has Jesus not only removed the obstacles between you and God, but become Himself the greatest display of God's glory you've ever seen?

**From Sunday's Sermon**

"Jesus Christ enters the world as the God man and he does something that covers and conquers my depravity absorbs the wrath of God so that I can now see and Savor what I was designed to see and Savor and in the very doing of that redeeming he becomes the apex of the glory I was designed to see."

**Today's Application**

Reflect on the specific ways Jesus has covered your sin and conquered your depravity. Write down three aspects of Christ's character or work that have become especially precious to you. Thank Him for being both your Savior and your supreme treasure.

**Morning Prayer**

Jesus, thank You for not just removing the obstacles between me and God, but for becoming the most glorious sight my redeemed eyes could ever behold. Help me see You as the apex of God's glory, the perfect display of His grace. Make me so satisfied in You that my life proves You are more precious than anything else. Amen.

**Evening Devotion****The Apex of Glory****Evening Reflection**

The universe exists to display God's glory. The apex of that glory is His grace. The apex of grace is Jesus Christ. And the climactic moment of Christ's glory was His death for sinners like us. He became a curse for us, bore our condemnation, was made sin so we could become righteous. This isn't just doctrine - it's the breathtaking center of reality. Everything was created to get to this moment when the Lamb slain from the foundation of the world would demonstrate the infinite riches of God's grace toward rebellious sinners.

**Evening Reflection**

How does seeing the cross as the 'apex of glory' rather than just a necessary sacrifice change your appreciation for what Jesus did?



**Evening Prayer**

Lord Jesus, I stand amazed that Your death for my sins wasn't just a solution to a problem, but the very point of creation itself. Help me never get over the wonder that You are both my Savior and the supreme display of God's glory. Let the cross be my greatest treasure and deepest joy. Amen.

**Friday - Joyful Suffering in Love's Service****Morning Devotion****Today's Verse**

Matthew 5:11-12 - 'Blessed are you when others revile you and persecute you and utter all kinds of evil against you falsely on my account. Rejoice and be glad, for your reward is great in heaven.'

**Devotional Thought**

The third discovery: The life that most clearly displays the all-satisfying worth of Christ is a life of joyful suffering in the service of love. What makes Christians salty? What makes us light? Not just good deeds - pagans do good deeds too. What's extraordinary and impossible for the world is joy in the face of persecution because of a reward in heaven. When we're so satisfied in our heavenly reward that we keep doing good for people who hate us - happily - we're off the charts salty. People taste that and say, 'That's incredible! That can't be done unless there's a great, glorious God who satisfies the broken soul.' This is the unwasted life.

**Reflection Question**

What current difficulty or opposition could become an opportunity to display the all-satisfying worth of Christ through joyful endurance?

**From Sunday's Sermon**

"The life that most clearly displays the all-satisfying worth and glory of God in Christ is a life of Joyful suffering in the service of love."

**Today's Application**

Identify one situation where you're facing difficulty or opposition. Instead of just enduring it, ask God to help you find joy in it because of your heavenly reward. Let your response be so counter-cultural that others are drawn to ask about the hope within you.

**Morning Prayer**

Father, help me live such a counter-cultural life of joyful suffering that people are amazed and ask about my hope. Make me so satisfied in my heavenly reward - seeing Jesus' glory - that I can love and serve even those who oppose me. Let my joy in hardship point others to Your all-satisfying worth. Amen.

**Evening Devotion****Don't Waste Your Life****Evening Reflection**

The greatest reward we could ever receive is stated in Jesus' prayer: 'Father, I desire that those whom you have given me may be with me where I am, to see my glory.' If you want a reward beyond seeing the glory of the crucified, slain Lamb of God, there isn't one. You can't get greater than that. So find in Jesus the apex of God's grace. Embrace Him. Be so satisfied in Him that you live and die proving He is your supreme treasure. This is the unwasted life - not perfection, but a clear direction toward treasuring Christ above all.

**Evening Reflection**

What would it look like for you to live and die in a way that proves Jesus is your supreme treasure?

**Evening Prayer**

Lord Jesus, I don't want to waste the one life You've given me. Help me find in You the apex of God's glory and grace. Make me so satisfied in You that everything else looks like rubbish in comparison. Let my life and death be a clear testimony that You are my supreme treasure and greatest reward. Don't let me waste this precious gift of life. Amen.