



Your church name

Small Group Study Guide

From: John Piper: Don't Waste Your Life

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Theme: Don't waste your life—live to display God's glory in Christ as your supreme treasure.

Opening Scripture

"For to me to live is Christ, and to die is gain." - Philippians 1:21

"For his sake I have suffered the loss of all things and count them as rubbish, in order that I may gain Christ."
- Philippians 3:8

Silent Reflection Prompt (5 minutes)

Sit quietly and consider: If you knew you had only one year left to live, what would truly matter? What would you want your life to say about what you treasured most? Allow the weight and wonder of having "one life to live" to settle on your heart.

Group Sharing Questions

- The Awakening Question: The speaker describes a moment at age 17 when the weight of having "one life to live" came alive for him. When have you felt most aware that your life has eternal significance? What awakened that sense in you?
- The Purpose Question: He emphasizes being "mastered by a few great things" rather than knowing many things. What are 2-3 "great things" that currently master your heart and guide your decisions? How did they become central to your life?
- The Treasure Question: The message suggests we glorify God most when we're most satisfied in Him. Where do you honestly find your deepest satisfaction day-to-day? What competes with God for the place of "supreme treasure" in your life?

- The Suffering Question: The speaker describes "joyful suffering in the service of love" as what most clearly displays God's worth. Share about a time when difficulty or sacrifice actually deepened your joy or revealed God's goodness to you or others.

Going Deeper: A Holy Tension

Consider this challenge: If God's purpose is truly to display His glory through us, and if we glorify Him most when we're most satisfied in Him, then our joy and God's glory aren't competing—they're the same thing. How does this change your view of surrender, sacrifice, or "dying to self"? Does this feel liberating or challenging to you, and why?

Response & Mission Challenge

This week, identify one area where you tend to seek satisfaction in something other than God (success, comfort, approval, control, etc.). Choose one specific way to "live and die proving that Jesus is your supreme treasure" in that area. Share your specific plan with the group for prayer and encouragement.

Prayer Focus

Pray the heart of the Lord's Prayer together: "Father, may Your name be hallowed here—revered as infinitely valuable and supremely satisfying in our lives, our families, our community, and our world. Help us live in such a way that others see You as our awesome treasure."

Closing Thought

"The people who make a durable difference don't have to know a lot of things—they have to be mastered by a few great things and be willing to live for them with all their might and die for them."

Take time this week to sit with these three discoveries: God exists to display His glory for our joy; Jesus is the apex of that glory revealed in His death for us; and a life of joyful love in the face of hardship shows His supreme worth most clearly.