



masterwork

S P R I N G 2 0 2 4

HOW TO BECOME A CHRISTIAN

In your opinion, what does it take for a person to get to heaven and have eternal life?

The Bible answers this question in one word—**FAITH**.

F is for FORGIVENESS

- Everyone has sinned and needs God's forgiveness: *"All have sinned and fall short of the glory of God"* (Romans 3:23).
- God's forgiveness is in Jesus only: *"In him we have redemption through his blood, the forgiveness of our trespasses, according to the riches of his grace"* (Ephesians 1:7).

A is for AVAILABLE

- God's forgiveness is available for all: *"God loved the world in this way: He gave his one and only Son, so that everyone who believes in him will not perish but have eternal life"* (John 3:16).
- God's forgiveness is available but not automatic: *"Not everyone who says to me, 'Lord, Lord!' will enter the kingdom of heaven"* (Matthew 7:21).

I is for IMPOSSIBLE

- It is impossible to get to heaven on our own: *"You are saved by grace through faith, and this is not from yourselves; it is God's gift—not from works, so that no one can boast"* (Ephesians 2:8-9).

T is for TURN

- Turn means repent. Turn away from sin and self and turn to Jesus alone as your Savior and Lord: *"I am the way, the truth, and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me"* (John 14:6); *"If you confess with your mouth, 'Jesus is Lord,' and believe in your heart that God raised him from the dead, you will be saved. One believes with the heart, resulting in righteousness, and one confesses with the mouth, resulting in salvation"* (Romans 10:9-10).

H is for HEAVEN

- Here . . . Eternal life begins now with Jesus: *"I have come so that they may have life and have it in abundance"* (John 10:10).
- Hereafter . . . Heaven is a place where we will live with God forever: *"If I go away and prepare a place for you, I will come back and take you to myself, so that where I am you may be also"* (John 14:3).
- How . . . How can a person have God's forgiveness, eternal life, and heaven? By trusting Jesus as your Savior and Lord. You can do this right now by praying and asking Jesus to forgive you of your sins and inviting Jesus into your heart.

Accepting Christ is just the beginning of a wonderful adventure with God! Follow Christ's command in baptism. Join a church where you can worship God and grow in your faith. Get involved in Sunday School and Bible study. Begin a daily personal worship time in which you study the Bible and pray.

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MasterWork: Essential Messages from God's Servants

Spring, 2024

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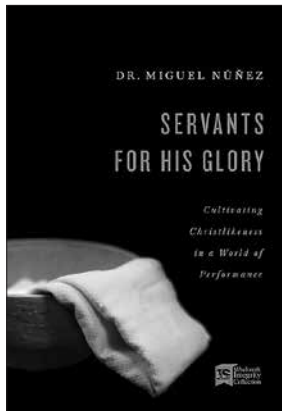
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Books of Study

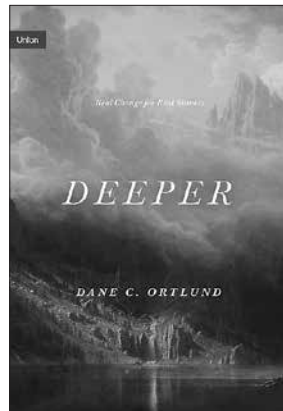
Further in-depth Bible studies by the authors presented this quarter in MasterWork® are available in their full-length books. To purchase your own copies to read and study, visit lifeway.com. Or you can order a copy by calling 1.800.458.2772.



Servants for His Glory

Miguel Núñez

B&H Publishing Group
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Deeper

Dane C. Ortlund

Crossway
ISBN: 978-1-4335-7399-6

How to Use

Here are a few suggestions to help you get the most out of this resource:

Group Members

1. Read Day One through Day Five prior to attending the group time. Complete the personal learning activities in bold type. Record your notes and questions.
2. Review your notes and questions a few moments prior to the group time as a means of preparing to be an active part of the group.
3. In the margins of this book, record insights gained during the group time.

Group Leader

1. Complete step 1 above.
2. Identify the one main idea and goal for the lesson. The main point of the lesson and the goal are printed on the leader guide pages at the end of each lesson. (See p. 18.) Focus on the session goal as you lead the session.

The main point of this lesson is: God begins to weave the seamless revelation of His plan from the opening of the Bible.

Focus on this goal: To help adults affirm the importance of the beginning in their walk with Christ

Key Bible Passages: Genesis 1–11

Leader Guide

3. Read and study the key Bible passages listed at the top of the teaching plan.
4. Develop a group time plan. Two options are offered in this book.

- One option is to follow the leader guide at the end of each lesson.
- A second option is to use the discussion questions in the margins of the lessons. Some group leaders use a combination of both group time plans.

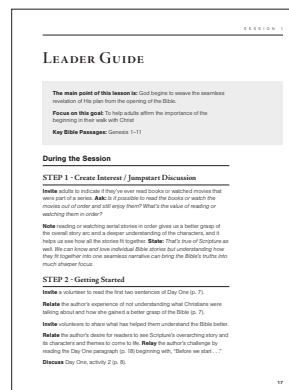
Written by forty authors over 1,600 years, sixty-six books tell one seamless story about God who redeems us, and has a future for us. Let's explore the beautiful story of Scripture. How does this story fit with Christians who are successfully fitting in with Christians who are...

DISCUSS

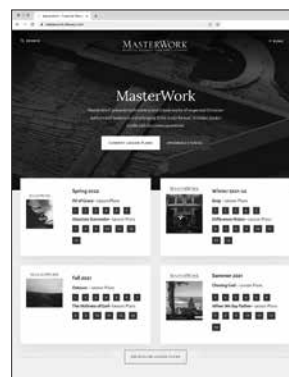
When might a visit to a library be overwhelming? When might it be exciting?

Discussion Questions

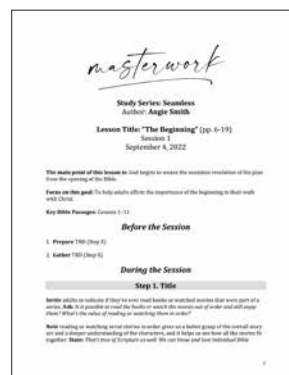
5. Customize the electronic versions of the suggested teaching plans, available on the Internet at masterwork.lifeway.com to fit your group.
6. Review and refine your teaching notes as you move toward the group time.
7. Arrive early, praying for the group time.



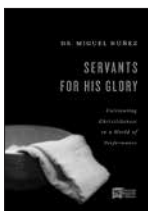
Leader Guide



masterwork.lifeway.com



Customizable Teaching Plan



SERVANTS FOR HIS GLORY

ABOUT THE WRITERS

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Amy Summers

wrote the activities, discussion questions, and teaching plan for this study. Amy, a frequent contributor to Lifeway resources, is a graduate of Baylor University with a degree in social work, and Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary with a master's degree in religious education. She and her husband have three adult children and three grandchildren.

Humans have interest in doing something productive or significant. We come into this world with a certain void in our hearts, hence this search for meaning. Many strive to do something to convince us our life counts. Many place importance on leaving a legacy for their posterity. These feelings and emotions propel us into the world with the goal of accomplishing objectives, requiring us to “do things.” “Doing” has become the addiction of our generation.

It is both sad and concerning that while humans are highly concerned with what they accomplish, they do not highly value cultivating their inner being, which would allow them to better manage the world around them. They do not want to invest the time necessary for their formation. Rather, our first inclination is to want responsibilities so we can start accomplishing tasks. It is as if we consider it a poor use of our time if we don't see work being accomplished. In other words, any time dedicated to the formation of the inner man is seen as a waste of time and effort.

In the Christian life, things are not that different. Someone is born again on the day of his conversion and frequently, almost immediately, starts asking: “What can I do?” When he hears that the best thing is to wait until he has grown in wisdom at the feet of Christ, he feels as if cold water has been dumped on his head; he might even be offended. We must not forget we are human “beings,” not human “doings.” Motivation to serve is a good thing, but the question is if we are ready to carry out such service.

Much of what we will discuss in the coming sessions is based on my own personal growth and ongoing observation as a medical professional, pastor, and counselor. The topics most likely will not be foreign to us—we have experienced some of them while observing others in friends, relatives, church members, and acquaintances in general. We all walk down this same path.

BE A SERVANT WHOSE INNER WORLD IS IN ORDER

Day 1

Introduction

The outer world in which we live reflects our inner world, something few recognize. Until our inner world is in order, it will be impossible for us to get our lives in order. We usually do things in reverse: we want to get our outer world *in* order while our inner world is still *out* of order.

There are many reasons a person's inner world becomes out of order, but in my opinion, the common denominator is poor use of time, also due to poor organization of priorities. This is why the apostle Paul in Ephesians 5:15-17 instructs the Ephesians to make the most of their time because "the days are evil." We can certainly say the days are even worse in our generation, which seems not to believe in absolute values and questions all authority. When we do not make the most of our time, we are unwise and foolish, as Paul points out.

1. Read Ephesians 5:15-17. What principles for making the most of your time can you glean from these verses?

DISCUSS

Do you function best when everything is quiet and orderly or a bit noisy and chaotic?

How we use our time is vital. We will never again be able to use yesterday's unused time. We cannot recover time we didn't use yesterday, nor will

we ever be able to use it again. We are not living on the other side of glory where we will have an eternity before us. Our time is limited; we live on the side of eternity where our days are numbered. To make things even worse, we live in a world of great sin, much contamination, and an abundance of moral corruption. If we do not make the best use of our time, we will end up suffering grave consequences.

Our use of time depends upon our worldview. *Worldview* is a compound word consisting of *world* and *view*. Our worldview is certainly how we see the world. However, it is not only how we see the world, but how we see life, as well. We have an incorrect view of this world and life; this distorted vision causes us to live in error and leads us to frequently desire to serve before we are ready. A person's worldview determines how he thinks, what he desires, how he makes decisions, and it will even determine the goals he pursues and the purposes of his entire life. All these elements establish how we use our time.

NOTE

In order to “be” before we “do,” we must consume the Word of God and have an intimate communion with the Holy Spirit of God.

Our worldview either creates problems for us or avoids adverse consequences for us. We continually think, see, react, and relate to others through a worldview. This is why a proper worldview is something we must have. Our worldview is the lens through which we see everything. Imagine a camera with an out-of-focus lens. Everything looks distorted. We adjust the focus of the lens until we've gained the correct focus, and everything looks as it should. We frequently view life as distorted. The only thing that straightens out life and brings it into focus is the Word of God applied in our lives by means of the Holy Spirit. This requires us to consume the Scriptures and to be in communion with God. Both things are needed. Thus, in order to “be” before we “do,” we must consume the Word of God and have an intimate communion with the Holy Spirit of God because, when these two things come together, our lens will be able to focus well. It isn't until our life lens is in complete focus that we can do what we have been called to do.

DISCUSS

How might a person's worldview determine whether they live an orderly or chaotic life?

Our decisions reveal who we are and determine what we will become. A decision we make tomorrow may determine who we will be within a year, be it good or bad; and that decision will depend entirely upon a worldview.

The Christian Worldview Puts Our Inner World in Order

In the text of Ephesians 5:15-17, the apostle Paul exhorts us to make the best use of the time. The word translated as time is *Kairos*. Greek has two

distinct words for time: *cronos* and *kairos*. The first has to do with chronology, time measured on a clock or related to the calendar, but this is not the word used here. The word in the biblical text we are considering is *kairos*, which refers to a special period or window of opportunity during which we may accomplish certain things; but that window will eventually close.

Perhaps we have not considered the fact that there will come a time when we will not be able to minister. But that time will certainly come. There will come a time when our children will leave home, and we will not be able to influence them like we did before. There is a window of opportunity that will close. In a general way, Paul says, “Make the best of your time, and do not be foolish.”

2. Read Psalm 90:12-17, “a prayer of Moses.” Which of these prayers penned by Moses most resonates with you at this point in your life and why?

Day 2

The Call Is to Meditate on What Is Good for the Soul, Part 1

Have you ever sat down to meditate on what is good for your soul and honors God? For example, forms of entertainment that do not please God; movies we enjoy but offend the image of God; vulgar speech; immodest or ostentatious ways of dressing; lifestyles that more resemble those who do not know the Lord than those who have been created in the image of God. None of this is beneficial to our soul nor does it honor God. Whatever we do or do not do with these ideas will contribute to either order or disorder in our inner world. This worldview will even help us not waste hours in front of a television watching things that do not benefit our soul and later will lead us, on many occasions, to counseling for problems they helped

to create. Television is an example, but it may be a computer, a business, a profession, or something else. We need to acquire a way of thinking distinct to the world's way of thinking, or we will never become the people whom God desires us to be.

1. In the past week, what activities have you engaged in that have been the most:

Soul-nourishing?

Soul-draining?

DISCUSS

Why must Christians acquire a way of thinking that is distinct to the world's way of thinking? How can we do so?

Consider an exercise to give us an idea of how we spend our time. One week has 168 hours. Suppose a long day at work is 10 hours. We sleep 7 hours. Let us also suppose our meals, added together, take 3 hours. If we add up all of this, we come up with 20 hours per day. Monday to Friday at five days multiplied by 20 hours per day equals 100 hours. For Saturday and Sunday, suppose we get 8 hours of sleep each night, but we also are going to assume 3 hours for meals both Saturday and Sunday, a total of 11 hours per day. If we multiply those 11 hours by 2, we arrive at 22 hours for the weekend. We now have 100 hours from Monday to Friday plus 22 hours on the weekends, a total of 122 hours. If we subtract 122 from 168 hours in a week, we are left with 46 hours to do other things. If we multiply 46 hours by the fifty-two weeks in a year, we are left with 100 free days (99.66 to be exact). This equals a little more than three months. What did we do with all that time?

Time goes by, and we are often most dissatisfied with how we used it. Why? Because we recognize we wasted time. As a result, our inner world remains disorganized. We usually live in such a way that urgent matters occupy first place while we place important things in second place, and

matters of priority in last place. It is common for urgent matters to be related to the demands of the workplace. It is seven o'clock in the morning. We should be on our way to work and must leave whether or not we have prayed or read our Bible or said goodbye to our children. We have to go. Our boss is waiting for us to attend to an urgent matter.

This is everyday life for many of us. We say God is important, but when it comes to putting this into practice, our job takes priority. After work, our priorities are relationships and commitments: birthdays, weddings, baby showers, and various other types of activities. And all the while, God occupies second place on our calendar.

2. Read Luke 5:15-16. How did Jesus keep His inner world ordered even while leading a busy life with urgent matters?

NOTE

We usually live in such a way that urgent matters occupy first place while we place important things in second place, and matters of priority in last place.

People say, "I have not had the time this week to read my Bible and pray." Nevertheless, these individuals have had the time to fulfill all their social commitments, go to the beauty salon, get a manicure or pedicure, wash their vehicles, and so on. What is certain is that we always find a way to make time for the things that interest us. God usually has no space on our full calendar.

Day 3

The Call Is to Meditate on What Is Good for the Soul, Part 2

If we do not get our inner world in order, our priorities will never have a place in our lives. But when we place the important things first, in their rightful place, the others also find space; but the same would not be true if we inverted the order. We must do the same in our life.

NOTE

Getting our inner world in order depends upon our relationship with God.

DISCUSS

How can we place God in His rightful place in our lives? What can happen when we do?

Believe it or not, getting our inner world in order depends upon our relationship with God. Once we have placed God in His rightful place in our lives, we will be able to correctly prioritize our relationships with our spouse, our children, our family members, our friends, and even our job. When our lives are in the correct order, we will find the space to have communion with God, and that communion depends on our peace with Him. Greater, still, is the likelihood we will raise holy offspring for good and reap the benefits of a greater satisfaction in life.

If you want to change and start over today but do not know where to start, one way to determine what is important and what takes priority is to ask yourself how your relationships are going. Which ones? Well, let us start with the most important one.

1. How is your relationship with God? If 0 is “Non-existent” and 10 is “vibrant,” what rating would you give your relationship? _____ Why?

If your relationship with God is not going well, all the others will not go well, and we can stop there. If we think, “My relationship with God is fine, but my relationship with my spouse is not going well,” then we must continue to examine ourselves because, generally, these two things go hand in hand. Proverbs tells us: “When a person’s ways please the Lord, he makes even his enemies to be at peace with him” (16:7). Proverbs is a book of wisdom and, therefore, there are times when we do not see its sayings come to pass exactly how they are stated. Nevertheless, being a book of wisdom, it does allow us to see that, in general, things in life do happen this way. Have you ever wondered what is the purpose of your life?

The majority of people are not clear on God’s purpose for their lives. They get up, go to work, come home exhausted, eat dinner, go to bed, then wake up to do it all over again. We must ask ourselves what God’s purpose for our lives is because, when it is not clear or obvious to us, we waste time doing things that are not part of His purpose for us.

Have you ever produced a life plan, be it a written plan or a mental plan? Frequently, our own life creates the plan while we are living it,

but in reality, we must get our world in order in relation to God so our plans can then be carried out according to His purposes. If we do not question ourselves, we will never know with certainty where we are.

2. Read Galatians 4:19. This year, has there been more of Christ's character formed in you? ____ YES ____ NO

If yes, in which areas has this occurred?

If no, why not? (Or, what areas need more of Christ's character?)

This type of question helps us understand how we are living in relation to what is important and what takes priority, because we tend to take care of urgent matters first. God, however, knows what we should tend to first. Regrettably, we frequently allow those urgent things to habitually take the place of priority things. Because of this, there is no place for God on our calendar. Time spent in communion with God, studying, and meditating on the Scriptures does not fit within our everyday life because urgent continues to replace each of these things. Each time we replace our priorities, urgent things create problems. It is at that moment that our outer world is in disorder. So, our outer world becomes disarrayed because our inner world has fallen apart first.

Day 4

Man's Inner and Outer World

Outer world has to do with our reputation. For many, what others think about them is more important than what God thinks about them. The way many live, seeking to please others while not pleasing God, demonstrates this point. Outer world has to do with work, social commitments, and appearances.

DISCUSS

Why do many people tend to pay far more attention to developing their outer world rather than their inner world?

Inner world has to do with character, values, and beliefs—what we truly are and, above all, that which is related to God. We ought to be reflexive individuals if we want to cultivate our inner world. For example, we cannot simply repent without considering what that repentance implies. On one occasion, Jonathan Edwards wrote: “Lord, forgive me for the superficiality of my repentance.” The greatest theologian the United States has ever produced said this. Socrates, the great Greek philosopher, used to say that life is not worth living if we do not examine ourselves.

1. Read Haggai 1:5-9. What did God tell His people to do twice?

What might it look like for you to be reflective and “think carefully about your ways”?

Men tend to be more task-oriented than women, and women tend to be more relationship-oriented in comparison to men. This tendency is reflected on a spiritual level in the fact women purchase the majority of Christian literature (70–80 percent, according to some studies); in addition, the same studies reflect that women actually read most of the Christian literature men purchase. This task-orientated disposition causes many men to be successful in the workplace but a disaster in the family.

Sinkholes—pits or holes that suddenly opens on the surface and swallow everything on the surface immediately above—owe their formation to underground changes and factors. Everything on the surface looks good up until the moment the earth gives way and collapses. The same is true with many lives that look good on the outside until the day the marriage or family collapses. This occurs because priorities have not been clearly defined. Although they may have been put into words, they have not been put into practice.

2. Look again at Haggai 1:5-9. Examine yourself and identify ways you've been so busy with your own house, developing your outer world, that you've neglected the Lord's house, your inner world.

Our priorities determine how we will live and the problems that can be created. There exists a thesis known as the Pareto principle, also known as the 80/20 rule. In one of its applications, it may be said that 20 percent of a sermon will produce 80 percent of the impact upon those who listen to it. This is not an absolute principle, but it does give us an idea of what Pareto was trying to illustrate. Similarly, we could say that if we organize our life in such a way that the first 20 percent of our priorities are made up of God and our family, perhaps we could avoid 80 percent of the negative consequences we might reap in life. Or, if the first 20 percent of our priorities revolve around work, social commitments, and friendships instead of God and our family, this disorder in our inner world is the cause of 80 percent of the problems we have: personal conflicts; marital conflicts; problems with our children; moral, ethical, spiritual, financial, health problems, and so forth. Perhaps one of the most common problems among Christians is financial difficulties. In the majority of cases, they are not primarily financial in nature; rather, they have to do with our *being*, that is how we live and how we see life and the world. Our concept of the role of money determines how we spend it and how we waste it. In the financial realm, there are expenses we should not incur because we do not have the money

to do so, and if we do not have the money to spend, we cannot spend it. You may use your credit card, but you eventually have to pay back that debt with added interest. We reap the interest that we pay on the things we did not prioritize well. This disorder is produced in the interior of the individual before being produced on the exterior.

Day 5

Decision-Making

When it comes time to make decisions, the Christian premise is that every decision has a spiritual dimension. For example, a church or ministry should have a budget. Yet, if the budget is the only criterion or the most important criterion used to determine expenditures, then God has been displaced from His rightful place. He should be the key player who determines how we spend money, and how we manage it. Within God's parameters exists a budget, which allows us not to waste the resources He has entrusted to us. The master of the budget is God. We should not buy something simply because we have the money to buy it. If we act this way, God has been replaced. He is the owner of all the silver and gold. When it comes time to make a purchase, God should be the one who guides us to either make the purchase or wait and save our money.

DISCUSS

What might a Christian's day-to-day life look like when every decision takes into account the spiritual dimension?

Since all creation belongs to God, every decision must have a spiritual dimension. If this is true, our prayer life will be indispensable. The Word of God will be the same because it informs our worldview. On the other hand, prayer is the vehicle through which God will continue to move us in one direction or another.

On the other hand, many times, knowing how to wait is the right decision. If someone were to ask me the best thing I have ever done in my life, I would not say preaching, teaching, or counseling. I believe the best thing I have ever done in life is waiting. God has taught me to wait, and in waiting, I have avoided many bad decisions. God has saved me a lot of time, strength, energy, and even money. Some have said to me, "Pastor, I made this decision because I had to do something," and I always have the same response: "Waiting on the Lord and His timing is doing something."

1. Read Psalm 27:14. Why might it take strength and courage to wait on the Lord?

NOTE

“Waiting on the Lord and His timing *is* doing something.”

Read Isaiah 40:31. What changes might you need to make so that waiting on God renews, rather than depletes, your strength?

Some people who know us well have asked us how we are able to accomplish so many tasks and, with all sincerity, the best answer we can give has to do with decision-making and the correct use of our time in order not to waste it. Many things, quite frankly, are a total waste of time. Always strive to use your time well because this is what determines how efficient we are. Many conversations are purely trivial. Although there is a time for them, they should not take up a lot of our time. We cannot dedicate a large portion of our time to trivial things. For if we did, we would simply be wasting it. Paul writes to Timothy: “Timothy, guard what has been entrusted to you, avoiding irreverent and empty speech . . .” (1 Tim. 6:20a). And in his second letter to Timothy, he repeats something similar: “Avoid irreverent and empty speech, since those who engage in it will produce even more godlessness” (2 Tim. 2:16). It is necessary to have substantial conversations that feed us, help us, teach us, and edify us. When appropriate, there is a time for joking and laughter. Some spend day after day discussing only the most superficial things in life. This is not a wise investment of our time.

2. Read Ephesians 5:4,15-21. What kinds of conversations do and do not make the most of the time? Do:

DISCUSS

How can we cultivate a quiet and ordered inner world while living in a noisy, chaotic outer world?

Do not:

LEADER GUIDE

The main point of this lesson is: Our priorities create the order or disorder of our lives.

Focus on this goal: To help adults examine their lives for evidence of disorder/misplaced priorities

Key Bible Passage: Ephesians 5:15-17

During the Session

STEP 1 - Create Interest / Jumpstart Discussion

Lead a discussion with: *Do you more often feel like you are a human “being” or a human “doing”? Why is that? How can doing and accomplishing become an addiction? Why is that addiction so prevalent in our society? (Use the Introduction on p. 6 to add to this discussion.) State: There is nothing wrong with wanting to be useful, but if we are going to be servants for God’s glory, we must focus on being before doing. This session explores how to get our inner world in order and challenges us to examine our lives for evidences of disorder and misplaced priorities.*

STEP 2 - Introduction

Explore reasons a person’s inner world becomes out of order (**be sure** “poor use of time” is mentioned). **Discuss** Day One, activity 1 (p. 7).

Brainstorm what it might look like on a daily basis for believers to pay careful attention to how they live, using Ephesians 5:6-14 to add to that discussion.

Ask if learners agree that “Our use of time depends upon our worldview” (p. 8) and why. **Examine** the meaning of worldview, using the author’s illustration of a camera lens (p. 8). **Ask:** *How can we bring life into focus and understand what the Lord’s will is?*

Invite someone to read the Day One Note (p. 8). **State** that relating to God through His Word and prayer brings life into focus so we can make the most of the opportunities God gives us to do what He has called us to do.

Request a volunteer read the last paragraph of Day One (p. 9). **Invite** responses to Day One, activity 2 (p. 9).

STEP 3 - The Call Is to Meditate on What Is Good for the Soul, Part 1

Declare Satan wants us to waste our time and not invest it in things that are good for our souls and honor God. **Draw attention** to Day Two, activity 1 (p. 10) and **state** it would be wise to occasionally evaluate oneself with those questions.

Brainstorm soul-draining and soul-nourishing activities. **Invite** a volunteer to read Colossians 4:2-8. **Identify** some soul-nourishing activities from that passage.

Declare one thing that is soul-draining is giving in to the tyranny of the urgent. **Consider** what that means. **Ask** adults if they agree with the Day Two Note (p. 11) and why. **Ask** what happens when we consistently live in such a way.

Discuss Day Two, activity 2 (p. 11).

STEP 4 - The Call Is to Meditate on What Is Good for the Soul, Part 2

Explain an ordered inner life requires an evaluation of our relationships and requires considering our life's purpose.

Read the Day Three paragraph (pp. 12-13) beginning with "Have you ever produced a life plan . . ." **Read** Galatians 4:19. **Declare:** *Our greatest purpose and life plan should be for Christ's character to be formed in us.*

Enlist a volunteer to read Mark 1:32-39. **Ask** adults what they discern about Christ's character from those verses.

STEP 5 - Man's Inner and Outer World

Declare: *When we focus more on being like Jesus rather than "doing," we can avoid the tyranny of the urgent, align our priorities properly, and get our inner and outer lives in order.* **Ask** if this will happen by default or intentionality and why.

Discuss Day Four, activity 1 (p. 14). **Ask** what problem God's people were experiencing in Haggai 1. **Consider** why their hard work wasn't accomplishing anything. **Evaluate** how God's people today leave God's "house" in ruins while they are busy with their own "houses." **Consider** what

will eventually happen to a life focused on developing the outer world while neglecting the inner world.

Explain the Pareto principle (pp. 15-16) and **guide** the group to explore how the 80/20 rule can apply to whether a believer's inner world is in order.

STEP 6 - Decision-Making

Ask: *When do you find it the most difficult to make decisions? What helps you feel more confident in making a difficult decision? How will a person's worldview determine how they make decisions?*

Invite a volunteer to read the second paragraph of Day Five (p. 16). **Ask:** *Why might waiting be one of the most difficult, yet wisest, decisions we can make?* **Discuss** Day Five, activity 1 (p. 17). **Ask:** *How does the way we wait determine whether we are "making the most of the time"? How do the conversations we have determine whether we are using time wisely?*

Discuss Day Five, activity 2 (p. 17).

STEP 7 - Practical Application – Live Out the Lesson

Ask: *What have you gained from this study about how to become more of a human "being" rather than just a human "doing"?*

Read from Day Four (p. 14), "We ought to be reflexive individuals if we want to cultivate our inner world." **Ask** what the author means by that. **Urge** adults if they have not already done so to spend time this week in personal reflection and evaluation using Day Three, activities 1 (p. 12) and 2 (p. 13), and Day Four, activity 2 (p. 15).

Close in prayer.