



Life Group
Discussion Guide
April 19, 2015



Discussion Questions

Leader Notes

"There are lazy people out there who need to get radical for Jesus. I understand that many people are stingy with their resources and fritter their time away on insane television shows. I understand there are lots of Christians in our churches sitting around doing nothing who need to be challenged not to waste their life." But, DeYoung says, "Surely there are many Christians who are terribly busy because they sincerely want to be obedient to God. We hear sermons that convict us for not praying more. We read books that convince us to do more for global hunger. We talk to friends who inspire us to give more and read more and witness more. The needs seem so urgent. The workers seem so few. If we don't do something, who will?"

-Kevin DeYoung, Author of *Crazy Busy*

Helpful Hint: Get people involved in the discussion by asking non-threatening questions that will engage the whole group.

Discussion Kick Off

1. What are some great expectations you've had in the past? Maybe with your job, marriage, a purchase you were making, etc.? Were your expectations fulfilled?
2. Stuart read the following questions from *The Busy Christian's Guide to Busyness*. Do any of these resonate with you? Why or why not?
 - a. Do you regularly work thirty minutes a day longer than your contracted hours?
 - b. Do you check work e-mails and phone messages at home?
 - c. Has anyone ever said to you, "I didn't want to trouble you because I know how busy you are"?
 - d. Do your family or friends complain about not getting time with you?
 - e. If tomorrow evening were unexpectedly freed up, would you use it to do work or a household chore?
 - f. Do you often feel tired during the day or do you find your neck and shoulders aching?
 - g. Do you often exceed the speed limit while driving?
 - h. Do you have enough time to pray?
 - i. Do you have a hobby in which you are actively involved?
 - j. Do you eat together as a family or household at least once a day?

Evaluate It

1. John the Baptist freely admitted he was NOT the Christ. If asked the same question, we would assuredly answer likewise but does you live that way? Do you act as though the world is depending on you?
2. John Piper stated, "We should care about all suffering, especially eternal suffering." Can we care about something without doing something about it? Are you doing something about everything you care about?
3. When does the kingdom benefit the most—when we do what we are gifted by God to do or when we put on our cape and tights and try to do it all? Why?
4. Are you "OK" with the gifting God as given you or do you have greater expectations of yourself?
5. Given the fact that the church has lasted almost 2,000 years, what does it say to God when we adopt the mindset that it's all going to fall apart if I don't?

SCRIPTURE PASSAGE
Read 1 Corinthians 12:4-14. Make it more interesting by reading from the Message version (free on the You Version Bible App).

Make It Personal

Stuart said, "There are other Christians who are too busy already because of all that we think we are obligated to do. 'Do more or disobey' is a pattern from this world. It's not what God meant for us." Have you bought into "do more or disobey"? In what areas do you need to trust that God has equipped others to take care of it? How can you release your too great expectations?

At the end of the discussion, take a moment to take prayer requests from the group (if you haven't done so) and pray for your group before you end your time together.

In 1972, NASA launched the exploratory space probe Pioneer 10. According to Leon Jaroff in *Time*, its primary mission was to reach Jupiter, photograph the planet and its moons, and beam data to earth about Jupiter's magnetic field, radiation belts, and atmosphere. Scientists regarded this as a bold plan, for at this time no probe had ever gone beyond Mars, and they feared the asteroid belt would destroy Pioneer 10 before it could reach its target. But Pioneer 10 accomplished its mission and much more. Swinging past the giant planet in November 1973, Pioneer 10 was then hurled by Jupiter's immense gravity at a higher rate of speed toward the edge of the solar system. At one billion miles from the sun Pioneer 10 passed Saturn, then swept past Uranus at some two billion miles, Neptune at nearly three billion miles, Pluto at almost four billion miles. By 1997, twenty-five years after its launch, Pioneer 10 was more than six billion miles from the sun. (Not bad for a device that was designed to have a useful life of only three years.) And despite that immense distance, Pioneer 10 was still beaming back radio signals that scientists on Earth could decipher. "Perhaps most remarkable," writes Jaroff, "those signals emanate from an 8-watt transmitter, which radiates about as much power as a bedroom night light, and takes more than nine hours to reach Earth." We, too, can do the unthinkable, not by our eight watts of power, but by the power of God." Trust that He able and be content to do the tasks He lays before you.

Starting a Table or Life Group? Take a look at the helpful information below:

Who establishes and makes up a table or life group?

1. Husband & Wife
2. Family
3. 2-5 Guys
4. 2-5 Ladies
5. 2-5 Couples

Where do they meet?

1. Kitchen table
2. Coffee table
3. Cafe table
4. Restaurant table
5. Picnic table
6. Work table
7. Round table

- Meeting (how often, how long): Weekly or bi-weekly (day and time is decided by the group). No more than 2 hours.
- Who should lead a table or life group? Leadership can be shared or the group may choose a leader.
- How long should the group stay together? The group should commit to stay together 6-8 weeks. Groups can renew their commitment to meet together at the end of that time, but initially groups should stay together 6-8 weeks.
- What happens if the group is too big to meet around a table? No table or life group should have more than 15 individuals. If a group grows to have more than 15 participants, there are two options:
 - Multiply into separate tables (groups of less than 15) or
 - Seek to establish a life group (10-20 participants)
- If you have any questions or would like to establish a life group, please contact Jason Fox at 270-765-4994 or jason@fcctown.com.

If you would like to talk with a minister,
call 270-765-4994 to set up an appointment or contact:

Stuart Jones stuart@fcctown.com Senior Minister
Chris Kiger chris@fcctown.com Student Minister
Jason Fox jason@fcctown.com Small Group Minister

Doug Mitchell doug@fcctown.com Connections Minister
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