

Winning In Life Small Group Guide

Warm-up Question: (Choose one, make up your own, or skip this part all together, depending upon the nature of your group.)

1. What is something you have done or participated in that took way longer than you expected?
2. Do you have any “bucket list” items you would really like to check off before you die?

Read the following passages: Genesis 1:26; 3:15; 1 Corinthians 9:24; 10:31; John 1:12.

At some point in our lives, all of us, whether consciously or unconsciously, grapple with four big questions:

- Who am I?
- Why am I here?
- What’s wrong with the world?
- How can it be fixed?

How we answer these questions determines the direction of our lives. If we tie ourselves to something as uncertain as money or beauty, we will live insecure lives and will feel completely exposed when God calls us to give an account of our lives. The Scriptures, however, show us a better way. We can become children of God through faith in Jesus Christ.

Questions for Discussion (Choose several that are relevant for your group):

1. When we choose to follow Jesus Christ, we become children of God (John 1:12). This primary identity shapes how think about all of our “secondary identities” (e.g. athletic, hard-working, spouse, American, teacher, etc.) Which of your secondary identities are you most prone to elevate above your identity as a child of God? Explain. How might this become problematic?
2. Read Romans 8:14-17. Are you regularly comforted by the reality that you are God’s child? Explain.
3. The Westminster Shorter Catechism states: Man’s (i.e. humanity’s) chief end is to glorify God, and to enjoy him forever. What are some practical ways we can glorify God with our lives? Do you regularly enjoy God? Explain.
4. Are you ever surprised by the evil, frustration, or sadness you experience in this life? What kind of expectations should followers of Jesus have for this life? Do you find it difficult to take responsibility for the pain and hardship you bring to yourself and others? Explain.

5. On a scale of 1 to 10, how much regret are you living with? How can Jesus help us navigate our regrets?
6. How closely are you walking with Jesus right now? In what ways do you want to grow in your relationship with God?

Pray