

Study Guide Questions

Series: Asking For a Friend

Message: Does Life Have a Purpose?

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ENGAGE THE SCRIPTURES

Memory Verse: 1 Peter 3:15 ... in your hearts honor Christ the Lord as holy, always being prepared to make a defense to anyone who asks you for a reason for the hope that is in you; yet do it with gentleness and respect...

- Stereotypically men seek purpose in their careers and women within their family. Are you seeking meaning and purpose for your life in something that is not God?
- The Westminster Shorter Catechism states, “Man’s chief end is to glorify God, and to enjoy Him forever.” Do you agree with this? If so, how have you aligned your life to this purpose? If not, what do you believe to be man’s purpose? From where do you draw this conclusion?

Read Proverbs 3:1-12

Surrender your heart (v.3-4)

- What does the imagery of “tie them around your neck; write them on the tablet of your heart” evoke within you?

Surrender your will (v.5-6)

- Share about a time when you have found it difficult to trust what the Bible says over what the world or your mind is telling you. How did you resolve the tension?
- What are some key areas in your life where you haven’t been acknowledging God’s lordship? How can you grow in this area? How can your Small Group help you?
- When difficult situations or decisions are at your door, what source do you typically turn to first for guidance/direction? Where do God, the Bible, and prayer typically place?

Surrender your perspective (v.7-8)

- As humans we always think we know what is best for ourselves. Have you ever tried to persuade God to see it your way? Why can we have such a hard time letting God be in control?
- Throughout Scripture there are regular references to staying away from evil. Why is it so dangerous to rub shoulders with Satan? Are you getting too close to the fire in any areas in your life?

Surrender your possessions (v.9-10)

- What does it mean for us today to honor God with our firstfruits?
- How does our spending and our view of wealth and money reveal the condition of our hearts? See 1 Timothy 6:10.

Surrender your sin (v.11-12)

- God loves you like a parent loves their child. And just as parents discipline their children, so God disciplines us. Whether by earthly parents or the Heavenly Father, how do you receive being disciplined?
- How have you seen God's discipline produce growth and positive results in your life?