

Life: It's Not A Game – Lesson 1 Workbook

The Challenge

Esther 2-7

1. What was Esther's challenge in these verses?

2. Esther decided to take a risk, what negative outcome could she have encountered?

3. Esther was put on earth and given the challenge of saving her people. How would you have felt in her situation?

4. What do you think you would have done? Why do you say that?

MAKING IT REAL

1. How can following Jesus be a challenge? What do we have to lose by following Him?

2. With any risk there are things to be lost but also things to be gained. What do you have to gain by following Christ?

3. What have you been put on earth to do?

4. What challenges are before you that require taking some risks for God?

5. When it comes to taking a risk, the outcome is usually determined by someone's priorities. If the outcome is considered "worth it," they're willing to risk about anything. What is following Christ worth to you?

6. What are you willing to give up in order to have a relationship with Christ?

7. What wouldn't you give up in order to have a relationship with Christ?

Homework

- Memorize Esther 4:14
- Think earnestly about the challenges God presents to you. Embrace these challenges and move forward.
- How can you use your unique position in life to accomplish great things for God?

Life: It's Not A Game – Lesson 2 Workbook

The Battle

Judges 7:1-3

1. How many men start in Gideon's army?

2. God wants to make his army smaller. Who does He say can be dismissed to their homes?

3. How many people are left in Gideon's army after God makes this exception?

Judges 7:4-8

1. What does God say about the army?

2. In what way does He eliminate more warriors from the army?

3. By the time it's all said and done, how many men does Gideon have with him in battle?

MAKING IT REAL

1. Honestly, if given the choice, would you have left that army before the battle ever began? Why or why not?

2. Why do you think Gideon was okay with what God asked him to do? Would you have been if you were Gideon? Why or why not?

3. God calls Gideon to lead His people. Does Gideon accept that challenge?

4. What are some ways Gideon challenges the people to follow him in Judges 7:17?

5. How might that be similar to how we lead people today?

6. If people "did what you did," would they be living for God or against Him? What does that say about how you're living?

Ephesians 6:12

1. In what ways would you agree that life is a battle?

2. What does this verse say we battle against?

3. With whom do you personally battle?

4. Do you think you are winning or losing this battle?

5. Are you leading anyone else into battle with you? Do you expect to win?

Homework

- Memorize Judges 7:17
- Don't live in fear of the battle. Romans 8:31 states, "If God is for us, who can be against us?"
- Are there ways in which you can more actively engage in moving the Kingdom of God forward?

Life: It's Not A Game – Lesson 3 Workbook

The Opportunity

Matthew 27

1. Is there anything in this passage that you don't remember hearing before? What?

2. If you were one of the disciples, and you had walked with Christ all those years, how would you have felt when He was killed on the cross?

3. Name some incredible things that happened when Jesus died (see verses 50-53).

Matthew 28:1-10

1. If you were one of the disciples and you witnessed Jesus, risen from the dead, how would you have felt then?

2. How do you think seeing Jesus risen from the dead changed their lives from that point forward?

1 Corinthians 15:1-4

1. Paul says in verse 2 that it is by this Gospel that we are what?

2. How important does Paul say this Gospel is in verse 3?

3. Summarize the Gospel.

4. How important do you think people consider this gospel today? Why do you think we view it that way?

MAKING IT REAL

1. If you believe that Jesus rose from the dead, how should that change your life?

2. Has it changed your life yet? Explain.

3. What does the saying, "Life is not a game, but an opportunity" mean to you?

4. How many people do you think go through life absent of the knowledge that Jesus is alive? How does that explain the way some people live?

Romans 10:14-15

1. What do those verses say about telling people the Good News about Jesus?

2. People won't hear unless we tell them. God is calling us to open our mouths. Who is someone you need to share the Good News of Jesus with?

Homework

- Memorize Matthew 28:10
- How many people do you know who need to hear the Good News of Christ's resurrection? Make a list.
- Make opportunities to meet with the people you listed and lovingly share the Gospel with them.
- Remain connected to the people you have witnessed to, inviting them to church and your small group.

Life: It's Not A Game – Lesson 4 Workbook

The Journey

Acts 5:17-25

1. According to the passage, why were the apostles jailed?

2. What happened in verse 19?

3. What did God tell them to do?

4. What did the apostles do, starting in verse 21?

Acts 5:26-32

1. What did the leaders do to the apostles when they discovered the apostles preaching again (see verse 26)?

2. What did they say to the apostles (see verse 28)?

3. How did the apostles respond?

4. What do you think about their response? Would you have given in?

Deuteronomy 4:1
Deuteronomy 28:1
John 14:15
Romans 2:13
1 John 2:3

1. What do each of these passages say about obedience?

2. How are obedience and love related in the life of a Christ follower?

3. How well do you think you obey God?

MAKING IT REAL

1. Have you ever felt "lost" in life? When? What happened to make you feel that way?

2. What are some of God's most important directions for life?

3. Which of God's laws do you think are relatively easy to follow? Which are more difficult to follow?

4. What is one way you really struggle to obey God?

5. What influenced the apostles to feel so strongly about obeying God?

6. If you were in their situation, would you have been tempted to obey the people questioning you instead? Why?

7. There are lots of people and situations that will call for your obedience, and be sure about one thing - you're always obeying SOMEONE. Why is it better to obey God rather than anyone else?

8. How can obeying other influences (friends at school, stuff online, rumors, or gossip) bring you down?

9. How can obeying other voices in your life lead to becoming lost?

Homework

- Memorize Acts 5:29
- As you go through your daily routine take note of whom you obey more: God or others.
- Make a concentrated effort to obey God over everything else, even if it is uncomfortable.
- Read the Bible daily for direction.

Life: It's Not A Game – Lesson 5 Workbook

The Need

Acts 9:1-19

1. What was Paul known for when he was named Saul? Why was he on his way to Damascus?

2. What do you think of Paul's conversion? How intense must it have been for him personally?

3. What would the average Christian have thought upon learning that the dangerous Saul had converted to the faith?

4. Acts 9:16 talks about how Paul suffered for God's Name. What do you think is the connection between serving and suffering?

2 Corinthians 11:22-28

1. Which of Paul's sufferings do you find the most tragic?

2. How does Paul recount these sufferings? With regret? With boasts?

3. What do you think it must have been like to be Paul?

4. How do you think Paul looked back on his conversion after his suffering?

5. Do you think Paul viewed it all as "worth it"?

MAKING IT REAL

1. Judging your life today, do you think you are serving God or wasting your time?

2. Do you think doing anything other than living for God is a waste of time? Why or why not?

3. We all know Paul came to serve God. First, he had to give his life to God and surrender to him. Do you think you've done that?

4. After we surrender to God, there's a lot of work to do. What do you think you are particularly good at that could help people get to know Jesus?

5. To serve God, you're going to have to give things up: your own plans, dreams, etc. Are you willing to do that? Do you understand what that means?

6. Which would be better, to suffer for God's Name, or to waste your life? Why do you think that?

7. What are some ways you can serve God immediately, from this day forward?

Homework

- Memorize Acts 9:16
- Begin serving God now with all of the talents and abilities He has given you.
- Encourage others in your group when you see them serving God.