



SMALL GROUP DISCUSSION

DATE 5/2/2018

BIBLE PASSAGE Ephesians 5:15-17

1. KNOW THE CONTEXT

In Ephesians 5, Paul is talking about what new life in Christ is supposed to look like. He starts the chapter by saying that followers of Jesus are supposed to "imitate God in everything we do." That's a pretty big challenge! Paul then follows that up with some general ideas of what it looks like to imitate God. He finishes this general section with a challenge to think about the way that you live and the way that you spend your time.

Tonight we're going to talk about how we spend our time and challenge ourselves to make the most of every opportunity!

2. READ THE BIBLE PASSAGE TOGETHER

3. SPEND TIME IN OBSERVATION

Which verses, ideas, or characters stuck out to you?
What questions could come from this passage?

Observation notes:

Questions:

4. SPEND TIME IN INTERPRETATION

What did this passage mean to the original audience?

What would it have felt like to be a character in this passage, and who in the passage is the hero/role model (if any)?

What's the main point of this passage?

Questions	Answers
If you had one completely free day, what would you probably do?	Encourage them to be honest here! Maybe share your own ideas first. This is meant to be a fun question to get you started thinking about your time and how you use it.
What do you think it means to "live like fools"	Students may first respond to this question by talking about what others do... at some point, change the question to talk about what ways we all sometimes "live like fools" with our time.
What are some opportunities God might want you to "make the most of"	Students may be tempted to think only of big huge decisions here. Help steer the conversation to even the little moments and opportunities we have every day!
How can you begin to "understand what the Lord wants you to do"?	Encourage them to think about this question. Hopefully they will come up with some things like prayer, reading scripture, talking to wise and Godly people and more.

5. SPEND TIME IN APPLICATION

What is the "universal truth" God wants to teach us from this passage?

How can we apply the message of this passage to our daily lives?

- What is one thing that you feel like you are using too much time on?
- What is an example of one opportunity that you think God wants you to make the most of this week?
- What is one thing you would like to start this week to begin to better understand what God wants you to do?

6. PRAY

Follow-up notes: