

The Time is Now

Small Group Resource - Week 2

1. Read the passage, 1 Peter 4:7-11 together. Is there anything that really jumps out at you?
2. Can you think of a time in your life when things were going along smoothly, and as a result you got a little complacent - which led to some unintended consequences?
3. In the teaching, it was mentioned that there are lots of things that can cloud your vision, or leave you unsteady. What are the things in your own life that you know can leave you with an un-sober or un-alert mind?
4. Read 1 Thessalonians 5:6 together. How would you compare being “fully awake” and “alert and sober minded”?
5. We live in a “highly reactive world”. There are lots of things that can cause us to get worked up. Are there things you observe that maybe you realize you’ve been too worked up about at times?
6. Discuss this quote:

“Unbroken seriousness of a melodramatic or somber kind inevitably communicates a sickness of soul to people. And they’re right. This is partly because life as God created it is not like that. There are, for example, little babies in the world who are not the least impressed with our passion or zeal or sober looks. They are cooing and smiling and calling for their daddies to get down on the floor and play with them.

*And the daddy who cannot do this because he’s so serious will not understand the true seriousness of sin, because he’s not capable of enjoying what God has preserved. He’s really a sick man and unfit to lead others into health. **He is, in the end, sober-minded about being sober-minded, not sober-minded about being joyful.**”*

7. What does it mean to be serious about being joyful?

8. Read Matthew 22:37 together, and discuss what it might mean for you to love God with your mind.

9. Discuss this quote from Katie Boggs:

“I’ve known and believed in the Gospel of Jesus Christ since I was a young child. Despite my consistent presence in the church as a youth, I did not realize the important connection between the mind and heart in loving God.

I didn’t spend a lot of time personally studying the Bible. And when I did open it, I read carelessly, flipping to random sections in the middle of a book or chapter. I treated Scripture as though it was written just for me—to give an encouraging word when I was down or to help make a major decision in my life.”

10. What are some practical ways that you can engage your mind in the worship of God this week, this month, or this year? Consider the items from this list, but don’t feel you have to limit yourself to it:

1. Complete a deep study on a single Biblical topic this year.
2. (For those using this resource personally) Join a small group.
3. Commit to having family devotional time at the dinner table on a regular schedule
4. Begin reading Christian Authors
5. Join the Book Club we’re offering.
6. Commit to reading the passage that we’re studying before Sunday morning.
7. Take notes during the sermon.

11. Take some time to pray together as a group.