

LIFE IS SHORT.

Life is Short Part 3
People Matter Most
Pastor Dave Patterson
4.21.18

USING THIS SERMON DISCUSSION GUIDE

We have provided all the Scriptures referenced in the sermon and some discussion questions for you to use to facilitate a discussion.

This Sermon Discussion Guide is only a tool to aid you in meeting the needs of your group. For most groups, there are too many questions to answer in one session together.

While the questions are important, remember your group's goal is not to pound through the questions but to create an atmosphere that will foster true friendships, so use the discussion questions as you see fit, but emphasize the relationships.

Key text for the series:

Psalm 90:12

Teach us to realize the brevity of life, so that we may truly live and achieve wisdom.

We invest beyond these church walls. The "end game" is to see people saved.

Through the ARC association:

1 2 0 C H U R C H E S
LAUNCHED IN 2017

L A U N C H D A Y F O R T H E S E 1 2 0 C H U R C H E S

2 8 , 0 2 3
IN ATTENDANCE
1 , 0 2 6
DECISIONS FOR CHRIST
2 6 4
AVG ATTENDANCE

21 CHURCHES LAUNCHED THROUGH ARC GLOBAL NETWORKS

6 TOTAL GLOBAL NETWORKS

ASIA, AUSTRALIA, CANADA, IRELAND, NETHERLANDS, & SOUTH AFRICA

To love well and to have people matter most, we need to love like Jesus.

Matthew 9:35-38

*Jesus traveled through all the towns and villages of that area, teaching in the synagogues and announcing the Good News about the Kingdom. And he healed every kind of disease and illness. When **he saw the crowds, he had compassion** on them because they were confused and helpless, like sheep without a shepherd.*

He said to his disciples, “The harvest is great, but the workers are few. So pray to the Lord who is in charge of the harvest; ask him to send more workers into his fields.”

We want to “see” people the way Jesus did.

1. Jesus takes the road less traveled to reach people

- **John 4:4:** “. . . he left Judea and started back to Galilee. But he needed to go through Samaria”

2. People were not an interruption to Jesus’ plans -they were His plan

- **Mark 10:46-49:** “. . . as Jesus and his disciples left town, a large crowd followed him. A blind beggar named Bartimaeus (son of Timaeus) was sitting beside the road. When Bartimaeus heard that Jesus of Nazareth was nearby, he began to shout, “Jesus, Son of David, have mercy on me!”

“Be quiet!” many of the people yelled at him.

But he only shouted louder, “Son of David, have mercy on me!”

When Jesus heard him, he stopped and said, “Tell him to come here.”

3. Jesus did something about the immediate, physical needs of people

- **Matthew 15:32:** *Jesus called his disciples to him and said, “I have compassion for these people; they have already been with me three days and have nothing to eat. I do not want to send them away hungry, or they may collapse on the way.”*

4. Jesus invested in people with his life!

- **Matthew 20:28:** *He came to serve, not be served—and then to give away his life in exchange (as a ransom) for the many who are held hostage.*

PEOPLE MATTER MOST

the questions in review:

1. Am I going out of my way to reach people? (taking the road less traveled)
2. Can I be interrupted in order to reach? (schedule changed, plans altered)
3. Who am I feeding, helping and serving?
4. How am I financially investing in people?

TALK IT THROUGH

1. Do you have someone in your life who loved you well through a messy season? How did they show it?
2. What stands out to you most about the way Jesus saw and cared for people?
3. Are you willing to go out of your way to reach people? What would that look like, practically? Who are the Samaritans in your world?
4. Can you be interrupted by people who are hurting? Is this a strength of yours, or an area for growth? How can we grow in this?

5. In Matthew 15:32 Jesus said of the crowds, *“I do not want to send them away hungry.”* When considering the needs of people, how do you know when it’s time to pray and when it’s time to, as Pastor Dave said, “get out your wallet”?
6. Has there been a time when you were a recipient of someone’s “get out your wallet” kind of love in action? What was that like?
7. Discuss the idea of having healthy boundaries as we continue to grow in our love for people and open our lives in increasing ways.
8. Who can you release love to this week?

As we seek to follow Jesus’ example of seeing people, having compassion and loving practically, consider a serving project as a group. You can plan your own project or join one of the many ways TFH is reaching into our communities. For more info, check the We Love Our City website: www.weloveourcity.org.