

Using this guide

Welcome to the small group discussion guide for *Your Unfinished Business: Find God in Your Circumstances, Serve Others in Theirs*. This guide will help you dig deeper into the book's ideas.

Here's how you can make the most of the experience:

What's said in the small group stays in the small group. Sharing personal thoughts can be an experience in vulnerability, so help each other by keeping confidences (within legal boundaries of course).

Not everyone will say much. Sometimes, someone may want to listen more than speak, so don't create expectations that everyone has to speak all the time.

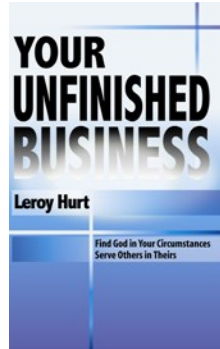
But don't monopolize the discussion either. At times silence can be a useful time for people to think things through.

If you're leading the discussion:

The guide progresses from awareness to application, beginning with awareness activities to warm-up and culminating with practical application.

This guide refers to the New American Standard translation for consistency with the book.

Feel free to tailor the material to the needs of the group.



Available through

www.YourUnfinishedBusiness.net

Amazon.com

Bookstand Publishing

Local bookstores

Contact for speaking at

www.YourUnfinishedBusiness.net

What's the book about? The number one question we have to answer is how to integrate faith and ideals into daily living. And the number one challenge for leaders is how to help people answer that question.

Our unfinished business too often seems a matter of figuring out what to do with our lives when it should be about fulfilling what we know our purpose to be. Stewardship as a way of life is how we can get from one to the other, and stewardship of our circumstances is the starting point.

Stewardship of our circumstances isn't only about what we do with our money, although that's what we often hear. Nor is it about positive thinking. Instead, it's how we integrate our faith and ideals into daily living, turning our circumstances into tools working toward a greater good. And that greater good is to turn them into beacons directing others to the God who calls everyone to Himself.

Leroy Hurt

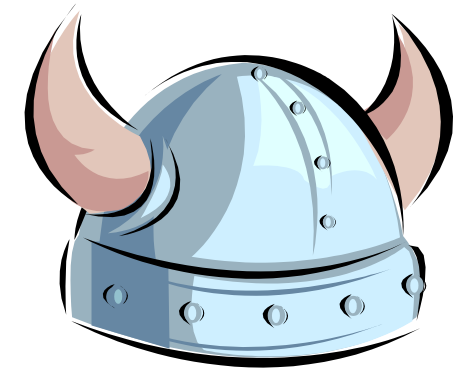
www.YourUnfinishedBusiness.net

LeroyHurt@YourUnfinishedBusiness.net

DISCUSSION GUIDE

YOUR UNFINISHED BUSINESS: FIND GOD IN YOUR CIRCUMSTANCES, SERVE OTHERS IN THEIRS

Chapter 3 Circumstances are your BOASTS about becoming the friend God wants you to be



Consider

“Mules are always boasting that their ancestors were horses.”

German proverb

“The next time you are tempted to boast, just place your fist in a full pail of water, and when you remove it, the hole remaining will give you a correct measure of your importance.”

Og Mandino

The ancient Vikings boasted of their accomplishments. Why would that be important?

What’s your opinion of athletes who point skyward after a scoring play?

What are some things you’re proud of?

Are you boasting when you put your best foot forward in a job interview?

Understand

Read the key verse below.

Why is knowing and understanding God a reason to boast?

What forms would boasting in God take?

Follow up:

Read Jeremiah 9:23. What might people typically boast about? Why shouldn’t these be worth boasting about?

Read the rest of verse 24. How have these qualities of God shown up in your circumstances?

Apply

“Your circumstances span the spectrum of human experience and make you aware you need more than just your own capabilities. Because we can know what others experience, circumstances can also be a common language that helps us communicate with others.”

- Chapter 3

Is someone you know experiencing circumstances you’ve already gone through? How can your experience help you empathize with that person?

What words can you use to describe experiences so others know you’re boasting in God? For example, do you say “providence” instead of “luck”?

What actions will you take to demonstrate your confidence in God? For example, would you become more generous with your time and money?

Before your group meets:

Read the introductory section of Chapter 3: Circumstances Are Your BOASTS, pp. 23-24

Key verse. Let him who boasts *boast of this*, that he understands and knows Me, that I am the LORD (Jeremiah 9:24, NASB).