

## 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.

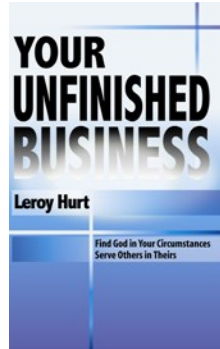
But don't monopolize the discussion either. At times silence can be a useful time for people to think things through.

### 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.



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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](http://www.YourUnfinishedBusiness.net)  
[LeroyHurt@YourUnfinishedBusiness.net](mailto:LeroyHurt@YourUnfinishedBusiness.net)

## DISCUSSION GUIDE

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

**Chapter 4  
Take God's  
perspective to  
make His  
priorities your own**



**A mountain-top experience:  
You can see from God's  
perspective when you take  
up His priorities**

## Consider

“And, sir, when we think of eternity, and of the future consequences of all human conduct, what is there in this life that should make any man contradict the dictates of his conscience, the principles of justice, the laws of religion, and of God?”

William Wilberforce

“Duty is the most sublime word in our language. Do your duty in all things. You cannot do more. You should never wish to do less.”

Robert E. Lee

How do employees make sure they understand their boss' priorities?

How do immigrants become assimilated into their new culture and accept their new culture's priorities?

Who are your examples of well-ordered priorities and devotion to duty?

## Understand

Read the key verse below.

Why would Jesus Christ be called “the Word”? Why not other terms like “the force”?

What did Jesus do to show He was one of us? How distant from human experience do you think Jesus was? Could you be the Word to your neighbors?

Follow up:

Read the rest of verse 14. What two words define the quality of Jesus' glory? How does this contrast with how we normally describe the glory of kings?

Read John 1:18. What do you think it means to have “explained” God?

How might this help us order our priorities?

## Apply

“Well ordered priorities help you stay on course because they demonstrate that you can see from God's perspective and avoid choices that gratify self-interest. Just as heroes are prepared before setting off on their quests, God has begun your preparation by giving you an example to follow — Jesus Christ. By following Jesus' example, your preparation will ground you in the qualities you need to pursue your unfinished business and perfect you in exercising those qualities.”

- Chapter 4

What are your neighbors' names? What priorities keep you from interacting with them?

How can you go from living in a place to dwelling among its people? What impact do you think that would have?

How will a well-defined sense of duty help you get out and follow Jesus' example?

**Before your group meets:**

**Read Chapter 4: God's Perspective, pp. 69-73**

**Key verse.** The Word *became flesh*, and dwelt among us (John 1:14, NASB).