

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.

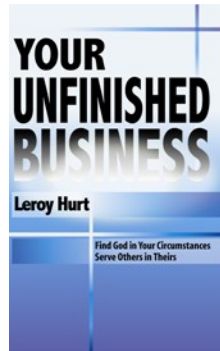
But don't monopolize the discussion either. At times silence can be a useful time for people to think things through.

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

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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

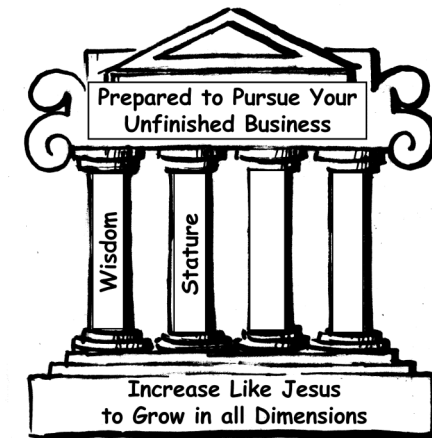
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DISCUSSION GUIDE

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

Chapter 5 Increasing in wisdom and stature



Consider

“How many legs does a dog have if you call the tail a leg? Four; calling a tail a leg doesn't make it a leg.”

Abraham Lincoln

“Sedentary people are apt to have sluggish minds. A sluggish mind is apt to be reflected in flabbiness of body and in a dullness of expression that invites no interest and gets none.”

Rose Fitzgerald Kennedy

“When I get the urge to exercise, I lie down until it goes away.”

W.C. Fields

Have you stuck to a principle in spite of being encouraged to compromise.

What is the difference between wisdom and having a high IQ?

What advice have you heard about maintaining your health?

Understand

Read the key verse below.

For what purpose is your body to be a sacrifice?

What was your mind like that it has to be renewed?

Follow up:

Read Romans 11:33-12:1. What aspects of God call for a dedicated body and renewed mind?

Read Romans 12:2-21. What are the outcomes of a dedicated body and renewed mind? Why can we expect such outcomes?

Apply

“The key to wisdom is basing your critical thinking and especially your assumptions upon objective truth.”

“Increasing in stature therefore means treating your body as a temple, and treating your body as a temple means developing it to help you pursue your unfinished business.”

- Chapter 5

What can you do to more closely align your thinking with objective truth?

How can you help others adhere to objective truth?

What disciplines will help you treat your body like the temple it is?

What needs have come to your attention through your eyes and ears? What service will you render through your hands and feet?

Before your group meets:

Read the Wisdom and Stature sections of Chapter 5, pp. 91–113

Key verse. “...present *your bodies* a living and holy sacrifice...be transformed by the renewing of *your mind* (Romans 12:1-2)