

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.

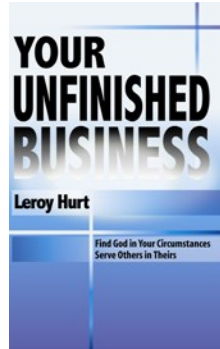
But don't monopolize the discussion either. At times silence can be a useful time for people to think things through.

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

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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

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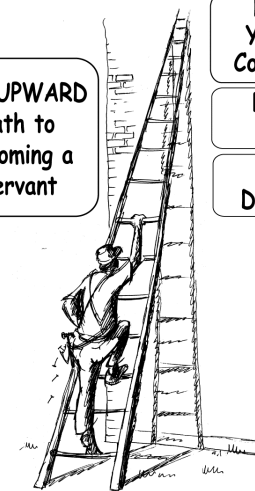
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DISCUSSION GUIDE

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

Chapter 7 Becoming a servant is an UPWARD path

The UPWARD
Path to
Becoming a
Servant



Devote
Yourself
Completely

Reflect
Deeply

Act
Decisively

Consider

“First say to yourself what you would be; and then do what you have to do.”

Epictetus

“An ounce of performance is worth pounds of promises.”

Mae West

“All men should strive to learn before they die, what they are running from, and to, and why.”

James Thurber

What’s likely to happen if you don’t learn from the past?

Describe a time when your level of commitment to something meant giving up other things.

What valuable lesson did you learn from an experience when you took time to think about it?

Understand

Read the key verse below.

What influences in the four dimensions (wisdom, statute, favor with God, favor with man) helped you grow?

What influences in the four dimensions hindered your growth?

Follow up:

Read verse 14. What negative characteristics of childhood come our way if we don’t grow in the four dimensions?

Read the end of verse 15 and all of verse 16. Who is our role model? What is the result?

Read the first half of verse 15 and verses 17-32. Why do you think spiritual growth that follows Christ’s character leads to the positive qualities in the those verses.

Apply

“This last step of UPWARD will launch you on your next cycle of development as you continue to pursue the unfinished business God has presented you as His friend. You’ll be presented with new opportunities to increase in the four dimensions of your life that help you see even more from God’s perspective, and you’ll bear greater fruit as you continue to learn how to be His blessing to others. “

- Chapter 7

What can help you grow in the different dimensions (wisdom, stature, favor with God, favor with man)?

Who can help you grow in the different dimensions?

What mindset will you develop to be able to identify opportunities for growth?

Before your group meets:

Read the Act, Reflect, and Devote sections of Chapter 7, pp. 175-191

Key verse. “...we are to *grow up in all aspects* into Him who is the head, even Christ” (Ephesians 4:15, NASB).