



Unit 6—Living Now: Decisions

- (30) God's sovereign will—both good and evil are part of His sovereign will. We cannot know God's sovereign will for our lives ahead of time.
- (31) God's moral will—God's moral will for our lives are not hidden from us.... involves our actions and motives—if both are godly then we have the freedom to choose.

Question—How do these truths about God's sovereign & moral will challenge and comfort you?

- (33) **Leftover discipleship**—when my commitment to the church and to Christian service comes from the leftovers of my life, and my giving is from the leftovers of my money.... Instead of leftover service, we would have 'whole life' discipleship and leftover lifestyles. We would be content with whatever standard of living allowed us to serve God and seek first his kingdom.
- (36) Decisions and the Christian community—we involve the Christian community in decision-making to the extent that our decisions affect the community.

Question—Are you guilty of leftover discipleship? How might you be disregarding God's design for community through your decisions?

Unit 7—Living now: friendships

- (38) Recognize the value of friendship— the godlier I am, the better friend I will be. You can assess my character by the kind of friend I am.
- (40-42) Exercise discernment in friendship—friendships based on (1) utility, (2) pleasure, (3) goodness
- (42) Admit you need a friend— Our default is self-centeredness and self-preoccupation. Without friends, our world shrinks and shrivels. Without friends to love and friends to challenge we become less than we were made to be.
- (43) A redemptive vision of friendship— I see true friendship of breathtaking proportions. I see a friendship that draws and entices, a friendship that humbles and excites. We also see a friendship that calls us into the friendship with God for which we were made — a friendship that calls me to repentance for not being the friend to God and others that I was made to be.

Question—Share how you have failed to live out the gospel call in the area of friendships.

Unit 8—Living now: horizons

- We are part of a worldwide family
- We are part of a worldwide mission
- Home and away—the value of short-term mission trips

Unit 9—Living now: possessions

- The lie of consumerism—the secret to life and happiness is to get more—bigger and better
- The good news of Christian contentment
 - Find your joy in God
 - Find your security in God
 - Enjoy God's good creation—contentment—found by enjoying things of true/greater value
 - Live for God's new creation—the currency of heaven is love—be generous and willing to share

Question—How does your discontent reveal your lack of contentment in God and all He has given us in Christ?

Guidance:

Quickly recap the small group rules.

Keep the discussion at the personal level, how does this effect me or how do I need to change.

Try to get everyone in the group involved in the discussion.

Guard against any one person dominating the discussion.

Keep the discussion focused on the recap so as to avoid "rabbit trails".

Act as the facilitator not the teacher