

# A Life That Matters

Insights on Romans 15:7-21

Pastor Dave Nichols, Grace Point Church, June 3, 2018

## Why Paul Did What He Did:

(Romans 15:7-13, 1 Corinthians 3:5-10)

- Paul lived for \_\_\_\_\_

## How Do We Live a Life That Matters?

(Romans 15:14-21, 1 Corinthians 9:19-23, 2 Peter 3:8-9)

- We live for others...
- We share our story...

## 3 Questions Christians Must Answer:

1. Where do I \_\_\_\_\_
2. Who has God put into my life that \_\_\_\_\_
3. What am I doing \_\_\_\_\_

## This weeks discussion guide:

### Welcome to “Week 8” of our small group session!

We are glad that you have taken this journey with us digging into God’s Word with others. We pray this is a time of growth, encouragement, and fun as you deepen friendships and make new friends along the way! This session of small groups will wrap up the week of June 24th.

### Looking Back:

Each week we’ll look and have an opportunity to share with our group how the week went and also share a few things to help us get to know each other better. What is something encouraging that happened since our last meeting?

1. It is interesting to look at “behind the scenes” stories of people who have lived their lives in the spotlight. Whether it is through an autobiography/biography or a television special, we learn so much more about these people than just what we see in public. What is a book or show you’ve read or watched about a person that you found interesting and why? What did you learn about that person you didn’t know before?

2. The last point of this weeks message was, “What am I doing to get them to Him?” Where is an area of ministry you serve in currently or in the past that was a blessing to your life? Why was it a blessing to you?

Each week in “looking back,” we also want to give each other the opportunity to look back since our last meeting and share how we applied something to our daily lives that we learned or discussed previously from God’s Word.

## Looking Up:

1. Dave encouraged us this weekend to live a life that matters by sharing with others what God has done in our lives. How does each of the following passages help shape the way you see and influence those who have not made a decision to follow him yet?

- **Luke 15:1-7, Romans 10:14-15, Matthew 5:13-16**

How can these passages be lived out in our lives on a daily basis?

2. Living in such a way that our lives are different from those around us can be powerfully influential. In 1 Thessalonians 2:1-13 the Apostle Paul gives us a great picture of what spiritually influential can look like. Read the passage and answer the following questions.

What do you think Paul meant by “sharing the Gospel?”

What do you think he meant by “sharing his life?”

Why does it work best to share the Gospel and your life?

3. When asked about our faith we all want to be able to get our point across and speak in such a way that our words have an impact. What advice do the following verses give to accomplish this?

- **2 Timothy 2:23-25, Titus 3:1-2, James 3:17**

What piece of advice in these passages do you want to apply to your life?

4. Take some time to think about the questions, “Where do I stand with God, Who has God put into my life that needs Jesus, What am I doing to get them to Him?” After you have thought about them for a couple minutes, write some notes for you personally about your answer. If you are willing, share with your group some of the insights into your life that you wrote down, so that others in your group can be praying with you.

## Looking Forward:

This last section is based on passages like the one below.

*But don't just listen to God's Word. You must do what it says. Otherwise, you are only fooling yourselves. For if you listen to the Word and don't obey, it is like glancing at your face in a mirror. You see yourself, walk away, and forget what you look like. But if you look carefully into the perfect law that sets you free, and if you do what it says and don't forget what you heard, then God will bless you for doing it.*  
*James 1:22-25 (NLT)*

Let's take a few minutes to silently pray and reflect back on this last week's message and what we discussed in our group. As we reflect, let's all pray and ask God for a specific application that He might prompt us to live out this week. If you are willing, share this with the group.

To help us as we reflect, here are some possible applications to get us thinking...

- Write down the name of someone you know that needs Jesus. Begin praying every day for their salvation.
- Find a quiet place this week where you can spend time with just you and God. Ask the question, “God where do I stand with you?” Seek honest answers with Him.
- Seek to find an area of ministry where you can help point others to the cross of Jesus.

As we look forward to this week, let's pray for one another!