



LENSES: PART 2

Family Devotional/Adult & Teen Discussion Guide

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MAY 13, 2018

1. PRIMARY STATEMENT: Everyone views life through a set of lenses - priorities, values, and expectations that help them make sense of the world around them. Those lenses filter what light (truth) comes in... but for those who are Christians, the lens



2. DISCUSSION: has just as much of an impact in the other direction.

3. CHALLENGE:

The lens you use for life affects the way God's light shines through you.

It's the work of the Holy Spirit to calibrate your lens to reflect God's glory properly.

2 Corinthians 3:17 [NLT] "For the Lord is the Spirit, and wherever the Spirit of the Lord is, there is freedom. So all of us who have had that veil removed can see and reflect the glory of the Lord."

2 Corinthians 3:18 [NLT] "And the Lord—who is the Spirit—makes us more and more like him as we are changed into his glorious image."

The lens you view life through filters not only your beliefs, but also your actions, words, and attitudes. As God's representatives to our world, it's up to us to show those who are lost - by our behavior - what it means to be a Christian. We should be, as best we can, an accurate representation of what God's life change looks like in a person.



Q. If someone from the outside commented on your life from 5 years ago versus today, what differences in words, actions, and attitudes would they see?

Q. When you think about reflecting the "glory of the Lord," what types of imagery comes to your mind? Does it seem like an everyday-life thing, or a mystic, other-worldly thing?

Q. On a scale of 1 to 10, how would you rate the level of contrast between how you live your life (as a Christian) versus how people who don't serve God live?

Q. When you consider the definition of "glory" - renown, honor, magnificence, beauty - does that change how "reflecting God's glory" looks in your mind? How so?

Q. What could you do this week to allow the Holy Spirit to work on your lens?



4. PRAYER FOCUS

Take a few minutes as a family: thank God for allowing you to see His glory and to know Him. Ask the Holy Spirit to keep shaping the lens you see life through so you can be a good reflection for people who are spiritually lost to see.



“HOW TO MAKE YOUR LIFE COUNT”

Family Devotional/Overflow Kids Discussion Guide

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1. POWER VERSE: **Philippians 2:13** *“For God is working in you, giving you the desire and the power to do what pleases him.”*

What’s Up: “God Can Use Me To Change The World!”

This week, we conclude our series called, “You Only Live Once” or “YOLO.” We’ve been learning some important lessons about making our lives count! Since we only live once, we need to make sure we do our very best to honor God with our lives and remain faithful to Him.

2. DISCUSSION:



Q. What do you think it means to make a difference in the world?

Q. Do you feel like you’re currently making a big difference in the world?

Sometimes it can be difficult to imagine yourself making a massive difference for the Kingdom of God. Changing the world or making a huge impact can seem pretty intimidating!

This week, we learned how Esther made a difference with her life. She really made her life count! We learned that we can make a difference too, if we take the right steps.

3. CHALLENGE:

Q. What have you done to live differently than the rest of the world?

Q. What can you do in order to live differently than the rest of the world?

Q. How often do you pray and seek God’s direction for your life?

Q. What can you do to make a big difference for the Kingdom of God? Will you be able to do it on your own?

What steps should you take to accomplish this?



We can really learn from Esther’s example to live different than the rest of the world, pray and seek God’s direction, and always remember just ONE person plus God can make a huge difference!



4. PRAYER FOCUS

Pray that your children will do everything they can to make their lives count and make a difference! Pray they will set themselves apart from this world and choose to seek and obey God’s direction in their lives.