



WESTPARK VALUES

Part 6 – March 19

Gal. 6:9

Leaders Guide

(Approximately 60 min)



Connect Spend time allowing group members to connect with one another relationally. (5 min)



Celebrate Ask how they've seen God working in their lives since you met last. (or relating to the previous meeting's discussion) (5 min)



Coach Facilitate discussion using the guide below (30 min)

Focus: Life Lessons

Big Idea: 10 life lessons that shaped my life for the better and could shape yours as well.

Read through Galatians 6:9 and share a couple of things that stand out to you.



What is one “life lesson” that you would pass on to the next generation?

Overview:

In the message Sunday we looked at the life lessons that Pastor Charles shared

1. Don't waste your sorrows.
The way you avoid bitterness is to forgive, refuse to hold grudges, and simply trust God's heart when you don't see His hand.
2. Live with integrity.
Make sure your private life matches your public life.
3. Be faithful in the small stuff.
Those small decisions and what we do with them profoundly affect how we decide and what we do when the big decisions do come.
4. Be a generous giver.
Sherryl and I have found that you can't outgive God.
5. Be known as a grace-filled person.
What is grace? Fundamentally it is God's unmerited favor toward us
6. Seek understanding before being understood.
We get so busy trying to tell others what we think and want that often we don't really listen to others and seek to understand them.
7. Laugh a lot.
Did you know that in the bible the words or concepts for joy, happiness, laugh, laughter occur over 275x.
8. Trust God's heart even when you don't see His hand.
Gal. 6:9 So don't get tired of doing what is good. Don't get discouraged and give up, for we will reap a harvest of blessing at the appropriate time
9. Never quit learning.
Read often and widely. Be inquisitive. Ask questions. Most of all, never quit learning from this book
10. Finish well.
We all face various finish lines/transitions/time we must leave something. It might be a job, where you live, a relationship, ministry, a church—we all have exits and endings we must experience. Finish well.



Discussion Questions:

Question 1: What are some reasons why it is important to live with integrity?

Question 2: Why do you think it is good to be known as a grace-filled person?

Question 3: Why is it important to laugh a lot?

Question 4: What is one of these life lessons that stick out to you the most?



Quotes and passages from the teaching:

Hebr. 12:15 See to it that no one misses the grace of God and that no bitter root grows up to cause trouble and defile many.

The way you avoid bitterness is to forgive, refuse to hold grudges, and simply trust God's heart when you don't see His hand.

Is. 32:8 But the noble man makes noble plans, and by noble deeds he stands.

1Cor. 11:1 Follow my example, as I follow the example of Christ.

You don't have to worry about whether or not you will make the right choice in the big decisions of life when you've been faithful in the little ones.

Luke 16:10 "Whoever can be trusted with very little can also be trusted with much, and whoever is dishonest with very little will also be dishonest with much.

The test of a person's life and character is not what they do in the exceptional moments of life, but what they do in the ordinary times, when nothing tremendous or exciting is going on (Oswald Chambers)

2Cor. 9:6 Remember this: Whoever sows sparingly will also reap sparingly, and whoever sows generously will also reap generously. 7 Each man should give what he has decided in his heart to give, not reluctantly or under compulsion, for God loves a cheerful giver.

So, a grace filled person says thanks a lot. Today, go thank someone for something.

Eph. 4:29 Do not let any unwholesome talk come out of your mouths, but only what is helpful for building others up according to their needs, that it may benefit those who listen.

Did you know that laughing is good for your health and that smile, even a forced smile, is good for your health. And it takes 43 muscles to frown and 17 to smile. Frowning will just wear you out.



EXPERIENCE: A time to apply

Here is a spiritual assignment for this week: Take in inventory on your own life and see if there are any of these life lessons that you need to work on this week:

1. Don't waste your sorrows.
2. Live with integrity.
3. Be faithful in the small stuff.
4. Be a generous giver.
5. Be known as a grace-filled person.
6. Seek understanding before being understood.
7. Laugh a lot.
8. Trust God's heart even when you don't see His hand.
9. Never quit learning.
10. Finish well.



Communicate

Share important information items with your group. (5 min)



Care

Spend time praying as a group. You may want to take specific prayer requests from your team members. (10 min)
