

The Walking Dead

Message to Conversation Guide

1. Discuss the concept that you can have biological life but not spiritual life and therefore you could be “a Walking Dead” person.
2. There are two words for “life” in the New Testament. Those two words are: bios and zoe. Discuss how bios speaks of physical life, living, breathing, working, buying groceries and paying bills, and how zoe speaks of spiritual, eternal life that is rooted in God himself.
3. One of the aspects of bios life is that it is temporary. Physical life on this planet, bios life, has expiration date. Read and discuss the verses below that give examples and images of the brevity of life.

Ps 90:12

12 *So teach us to number our days
that we may get a heart of wisdom. ESV*

Ps 39:4

4 *"O Lord, make me know my end
and what is the measure of my days;
let me know how fleeting I am! ESV*

Job 7:6

6 *My days are swifter than a weaver's shuttle
and come to their end without hope. ESV*

Ps 39:5

5 *Behold, you have made my days a few handbreadths,
and my lifetime is as nothing before you.
Surely all mankind stands as a mere breath! ESV*

Ps 39:5

5 *You have made my days a mere handbreadth;
the span of my years is as nothing before you.
Each man's life is but a breath. NIV*

James 4:14-15

14 *yet you do not know what tomorrow will bring. What is your life? For you are a mist
that appears for a little time and then vanishes. ESV*

4. If life is brief how should the limited supply of our days influence how we spend our days?

5. What made the people of Ephesus “walking dead” people according to Paul’s words in the verse below?

Ephesians 2:1-2

2 *And you were dead in the trespasses and sins 2 in which you once walked, following the course of this world, following the prince of the power of the air, the spirit that is now at work in the sons of disobedience— ESV*

6. Jesus indicated that merely looking religious on the outside and doing good things isn’t proof of spiritual life inside. In fact one can be very religious but a really be a walking dead person. How does the verse below underscore this idea?

Matt 23:27

27 *"Woe to you, scribes and Pharisees, hypocrites! For you are like whitewashed tombs, which outwardly appear beautiful, but within are full of dead people's bones and all uncleanness. ESV*

7. What are the symptoms of a living person? Why is an appetite for food a very significant feature of being alive? Discuss the scriptures below.

1 Peter 2:2-3

2 *Like newborn babies, crave pure spiritual milk, so that by it you may grow up in your salvation, 3 now that you have tasted that the Lord is good. NIV*

Matt 5:6

6 *Blessed are those who hunger and thirst for righteousness, for they will be filled. NIV*

Matt 4:4

4 *Jesus answered, "It is written: 'Man does not live on bread alone, but on every word that comes from the mouth of God.'" NIV (see Deut. 8:3)*

8. How does the verse below support the idea of taking a spiritual inventory of yourself to see if you are in the faith. Read the story of Nicodemus in **John 3:1-15**.

2 Cor 13:5

5 *Examine yourselves, to see whether you are in the faith. Test yourselves. Or do you not realize this about yourselves, that Jesus Christ is in you?—unless indeed you fail to meet the test! ESV*