



Series: Gospel of John	Date: Oct 23rd, 2016
Topic: Don't Waste Your Life	Speaker: Pastor Joe Ong

WELCOME

A popular saying in culture for a while was “YOLO” or “You Only Live Once.” This is true, each of us will only have one life on this Earth. This week we will examine how we can ensure that we don't waste it.

For the ice breaker this week, share your answers to the following question: Sum up your morning in a single word. Why that word?

WORSHIP

Start the worship time by encouraging people to share praises for what God has done in their life this past week. Sing worship songs from the Sunday services or select your own.

WORD

I. Spiritual Objective. At the end of the discussion, members will:

- A. Discuss what selfless devotion is and what it looks like to live a life of selfless devotion.
- B. Talk about where selfless devotion comes from and the action it should result in.

II. The Sermon Synopsis:

When Jesus was over at the house of Lazarus, Mary, and Martha, Mary took a jar of expensive perfume and anointed Jesus' feet with it. One of the disciples, Judas, objected as to why the perfume wasn't sold and the money used for the poor. Jesus' response is a reminder that Kingdom thinking does not always align with worldly thinking.

Instead of agreeing with Judas, Jesus acknowledges that Mary has done a good thing. Often this world will tell us that our actions, our sacrifices for the Lord do not make sense. However, the Kingdom of God does not work according to our expectations. When we commit ourselves in selfless devotions to Christ we may find the price costly, but our lives will never be wasted.

The Text:

Six days before the Passover, Jesus came to Bethany, where Lazarus lived, whom Jesus had raised from the dead. ² Here a dinner was given in Jesus' honor. Martha served, while Lazarus was among those reclining at the table with him. ³ Then Mary took about a pint^[a] of pure nard, an expensive perfume; she poured it on Jesus' feet and wiped his feet with her hair. And the house was filled with the fragrance of the perfume. ⁴ But one of his disciples, Judas Iscariot, who was later to betray him, objected, ⁵ "Why wasn't this perfume sold and the money given to the poor? It was worth a year's wages."

(John 12:1-5 NIV)

Discussion Questions

- III. Pastor Joe made the statement that our lives will not be wasted if you spend it in selfless devotion to Jesus. *What do you feel like you are living for? What makes you get up in the morning?*
- IV. Pastor Joe used the word selfless devotion throughout His sermon. *How would you define "selfless devotion"? Selfless devotion will look different for each of us. What does selfless devotion look like for you? How is it different for others?*
- V. Following Jesus is not always easy, in fact the Bible clearly says that following Jesus will come at a cost to every person. *What has following Jesus cost you in your life? How has it been difficult? Is it worth it? Why?*
- VI. Selfless devotion comes from a variety of places, love for Christ, gratitude, and knowing Christ personally. *What do you find motivates your actions most often? Do you act out of love or a sense of obligation? What do you have to be grateful to God for?*
- VII. When we are selflessly devoted to Christ, the natural result is action; we will naturally serve God and others; witness and share the Gospel with others; our lives will naturally begin to adopt the



fragrance of the fruit of the spirit. *What does your fragrance smell like? Does it reflect the fruit of the Spirit? (Love, Peace, Joy, etc.)*

WORK

- **Pray** and ask God to develop that desire to serve Him selflessly. Ask for opportunities to serve Him and express that selfless devotion to God and others. Finally thank Him that our lives are not wasted and that we can have confidence in Him and in His work.
- **Service Opportunity:** If your HOME group is interested in serving the community in anyway this Thanksgiving and Christmas season and would like ideas or opportunities. Please contact Jon Ayin at the Church.
- **Pray for Our Building Expansion Project (BEP).**
 - ❖ Please continue to pray that the city will accept our planned 114 parking stalls based on a non-concurrent use of our facilities to eliminate the condition of 166 stalls for our CUP.
 - ❖ (By the time most of you read this, the BEP will have met with our architect on Wed, 11/2, that evening, and hopefully have 65% of the drawings completed). Continue praying that Max will continue to move forward on the detailed to complete 100% by the end of November. The grading permit application is ready to be submitted—please pray that it will be approved by the end of January 2017.
 - ❖ Pray that we will create a workable transition plan for Sun. services, AWANA, adult Sun. school, our other weekly events and parking when grading starts.
 - ❖ Pray that God will raise up a construction manager from our congregation or the outside and will work well with our general contractor and coordinate our DIY work.

Announcements:

1. **Surviving the Holidays.** Saturday 11/5 at 2:00 pm. A special seminar for those who have lost loved ones and find the holiday Season difficult. Come and discover ways to survive the Holiday as well as share your experience of the Holiday season.
2. **HOME Group Leaders Meeting.** Sun, 11/6 at 12:00pm. Please join us for this last meeting of 2016 and begin planning for 2017.
3. **Grief Share Meetings.** The series begins once again on Fridays, starting on 11/11 at 9:30 am in Pastor Joe's office.
4. **Car Wash & Workday.** Sat, 11/12 at 9:00 am. Encourage your HG to help serve the community by helping our seniors wash their cars and to serve the church by helping to maintain our property.
5. **Thanksgiving Holiday.** Thurs, 11/24. Take a moment to give thanks to the Lord for all the great things He has done, and celebrate this time of thanksgiving with family & friends
6. **Save the Date: Star Trip: Our Faith Awakens.** Sunday, 12/4 at 8:00 AM & 10:30 AM Mark your calendars & Save the date for our Children's Christmas program. Invite friends and family to hear the Christmas story.



Series: The Book of John
Sun, Oct 30, 2016
Ps Joe Ong
Title: Don't Waste Your Life
Scriptures: John 12: 1-11

12 Six days before the Passover, Jesus came to Bethany, where Lazarus lived, whom Jesus had raised from the dead. **2** Here a dinner was given in Jesus' honor. Martha served, while Lazarus was among those reclining at the table with him. **3** Then Mary took about a pint[a] of pure nard, an expensive perfume; she poured it on Jesus' feet and wiped his feet with her hair. And the house was filled with the fragrance of the perfume.

4 But one of his disciples, Judas Iscariot, who was later to betray him, objected, **5** "Why wasn't this perfume sold and the money given to the poor? It was worth a year's wages." **6** He did not say this because he cared about the poor but because he was a thief; as keeper of the money bag, he used to help himself to what was put into it.

7 "Leave her alone," Jesus replied. "It was intended that she should save this perfume for the day of my burial. **8** You will always have the poor among you, but you will not always have me." **9** Meanwhile a large crowd of Jews found out that Jesus was there and came, not only because of him but also to see Lazarus, whom he had raised from the dead. **10** So the chief priests made plans to kill Lazarus as well, **11** for on account of him many of the Jews were going over to Jesus and believing in him.

Introduction

1. Your life will not be wasted if you Spend it in Selfless Devotion to Jesus.
 - a. Selfless Devotion is Costly
 - i. Financially
 - ii. Socially

- iii. Criticism

Be Undeterred

- b. Where does Selfless Devotion come from
 - i. Personal Love
 - ii. Gratitude
 - iii. Knowing Christ Personally
 - c. Selfless Devotion Results in Action
 - i. Fragrance of Christ Surrounding Your Life
 - ii. Service for Christ
 - iii. Witness for Christ

2. You will totally waste your life if you spend it on Yourselves.

Conclusion: