God Family Country

# GUIDED BIBLE STUDY

# Don't Waste Your Life

**Speaker: Shane Condon**

Scripture quotation: World English Bible (WEB), public domain.

## Highlighted Scripture

- **Ephesians 2:8-10 (World English Bible)**

  *"for by grace you have been saved through faith, and that not of yourselves; it is the gift of God, not of works, that no one would boast. For we are his workmanship, created in Christ Jesus for good works, which God prepared before that we would walk in them."*

  Paul places God's gift of salvation before the good works that follow it. We do not earn God's acceptance by having an impressive record of service. In Christ, we are made new for a life that expresses his goodness. Shane's reflection on John Piper's message invites us to examine our priorities: are comfort and possessions our final goal, or are we offering our ordinary days to Christ? Family, rest, and recreation can be received with gratitude while we remain willing to love and serve others.

## Discussion Questions

- What part of the contrast between a life of service and a life centered on comfort stayed with you? Why?
- Shane honestly admits that he wants a good retirement and time with his family. How can good desires become the center of our lives?
- How does receiving salvation as God's gift change the way you hear the challenge, 'Don't waste your life'?
- What might faithfulness to Christ look like in your present work, relationships, limitations, or season of life?
- How could your plans for the future make room for generosity and service without neglecting the people God has entrusted to you?

## Reflection Challenge

This week, bring one ordinary part of your life before God: your calendar, spending, leisure, or future plans. Ask him to show you one specific way to use it in love for Christ and your neighbor.

**Ask yourself:**

- What am I hoping comfort or possessions will give me that I should seek in Christ?
- Whose need have I noticed but repeatedly put off responding to?
- Am I serving from gratitude for God's grace, or trying to prove my worth?

**Try this:**

- Review your next seven days and reserve one realistic block of time to encourage or help someone.
- Choose one resource you can share wisely: a meal, a skill, transportation, money, or attentive company.
- Talk with a trusted person about one future plan and how it could include service to others.
- At the end of the week, thank God for opportunities you received and choose one faithful next step.

## Remember

- Salvation is God's gift of grace, not a reward for productivity or sacrifice.
- Good works are a response to new life in Christ, not a way to purchase it.
- A comfortable life becomes too small a goal when it leaves no room for loving God and others.
- Family, rest, and recreation can be enjoyed with gratitude rather than made into ultimate goals.
- Faithfulness can take the form of quiet, ordinary service; it does not require public recognition.
- You can respond to Christ today, whatever your age or season of life.

## Prayer

Heavenly Father,

Thank you for the life you have given me and for salvation through Jesus Christ. Forgive me for the times I have made my own comfort the center of my plans. Help me receive your gifts with gratitude and hold them with open hands. Show me the people I can love and the good work you have placed before me. Give me wisdom to care for my family, humility to serve without recognition, and courage to take the next faithful step. Let my remaining days reflect your grace.

In Jesus' name, Amen.