

# SMALL GROUPS

**LIFE IS BETTER TOGETHER**

## “The One Question You Should Ask Yourself Every Year”

### ICEBREAKER |

If you could choose one Final Jeopardy category to win the whole game, what would it be? In other words, what’s the one area of trivia you could always ace?

### INTRODUCTION |

We don’t always get the answers before the questions like on Jeopardy. In life, each day is full of unanswered questions. But there is one question we should ask ourselves often: *What are we doing with what God has given us?* He provides each of us with Time, Talent, and Treasure. It’s up to us to put it to good use. When we do, we rejoice with Him in celebration!

## READ |

Once, Jesus told a story about a king who went on a long journey. While away, he gave some of his money to three servants. The first two was able to turn their investment into a profit. Here's what he told them:

*His lord said to him, 'Well done, good and faithful servant; you were faithful over a few things, I will make you ruler over many things. Enter into the joy of your lord.'*

*Matthew 25:21 (NKJV)*

But the third one did nothing with what he was given. Instead, he buried it. Didn't use it. And because of that, it went to waste.

God has given each of us something. He expects us to use it, not hide it. What we do with what God has given us is the greatest question we will ever ask ourselves.

**What is the biggest obstacle keeping you from knowing what God has given you?**

## READ |

We could spend all week counting the things that God has given us. From our health to so many great relationships, not to mention our own salvation. Instead, let's look at three specific areas of daily gifts God gives us: **Time, Talent, and Treasure.**

*Teach us to number our days, that we may gain a heart of wisdom.*

*Psalms 90:12 (NIV)*

Each of us have a beginning date and ending date to our lives. What we do with the days in between are up to us. When you number your days, you're not counting down to an impending death, you're making each day count.

What you do with today is up to you. There will be things you can't avoid and things that happen to you. But how you respond is within your control. Make every day count by starting it off with the right attitude!

**What is one thing you can do each day to make sure you are making it count? (Example, start each day with prayer, end each night with gratitude, include one thing in each day that brings you joy)**

## **READ |**

God has given each of us some talent. A certain something that makes us unique.

*God in His kindness gave each of us different gifts.*

*Romans 12:6 (GW)*

You might not have the same gift that your neighbor has. They're good at something you wish you could do, but chances are you're great at something they lack in. That's why it's so important to use our talents together! God put us in a community so that we can go hand in hand. When we take a day off, or a week or a month off, we not only miss out on the opportunity to do something for God, we are denying our gift to those who need it most.

**Tell us about a time when you used your talent to help someone else out. What made it special? What feeling of joy did you receive?**

## **READ |**

Finally, God has given each of us a treasure. Everything we have comes from God. The money you earn at your job is only earned because He gave you the ability to work hard. And He has been moving behind the scenes to take care of you financially.

*God will generously provide all you need. Then you will always have everything you need and plenty left over to share with others.*

*2 Corinthians 9:8 (NLT)*

**According to this verse, why does God provide for our needs? How can you use your treasure to help others?**

## **WHAT WILL YOU DO?**

God has given us everything we need to live. That includes financially and physically, but also emotionally and spiritually. All those parts of our lives go hand in hand. That means that when we ask ourselves what we are doing with our time, talent, and treasure, we are also asking ourselves what we are doing with our souls.

- How are you spending your time?
- What are you doing with your talent?
- Where are you giving your treasure?

## **CLOSE IN PRAYER**

God, thank You for giving us everything we need to live our lives to the fullest! Thank You for the gift of Time. Give us wisdom how to spend every moment that we have. Thank You for the talent we have been entrusted with to use. May we truly use it for the God-given purpose You intended it to be used. May it bless others and most of all bring glory to You. What we have truly are blessings from heaven. Help us to never take these treasures for granted but gratefully applying them to build Your kingdom. In Jesus' name we pray, amen!

## SCRIPTURES FOR S.O.A.P.

**Day 1:** *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.*

*Ephesians 4:29 (NIV)*

**Day 2:** *So be careful how you live. Don't live like fools, but like those who are wise. Make the most of every opportunity in these evil days. Don't act thoughtlessly, but understand what the Lord wants you to do.*

*Ephesians 5:15-17 (NLT)*

**Day 3:** *God works in different ways, but it is the same God who does the work in all of us. A spiritual gift is given to each of us so we can help each other.*

*1 Corinthians 12:6-7 (NLT)*

**Day 4:** *Give, and it will be given to you. A good measure, pressed down, shaken together and running over, will be poured into your lap. For with the measure you use, it will be measured to you.*

*Luke 6:38 (NIV)*

**Day 5:** *“The King will say, ‘I tell you the truth, when you did it to one of the least of these my brothers and sisters, you were doing it to Me!’ “*

*Matthew 25:40 (NLT)*