



Week 5: For Such A Time As This

INTRODUCTION

Five minutes after we die, we'll know exactly how we should have lived. But God has given us his word so we don't have to wait to die to find out. And He's given us His spirit to empower us to live that way right now. After studying what God has told us about giving, we will focus on "What's Next" this week.

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

1. The story of A Christmas Carol is timeless tale of a man discovering the joy of giving. Read the conclusion to Scrooge's story on Pages 92-94, why do you think this story has resonated with so many people over so many years?
2. Most churches work under the "don't ask, don't tell" policy when it comes to giving. Why do you think this is? How are new Christians to learn about generosity when we won't talk about it? Is it any doubt so many Christians still get their cues from the materialistic culture around them?
3. Often our greatest area of influence is our own families. What can we do to grow and train generous givers of our children and other close relatives?
4. What concrete steps might God be asking you to take over the coming weeks to grown your own heart towards giving and as you influence others views of giving?

MOVING FORWARD

As we complete our study, take this time to consider your own heart and its direction toward giving. What would God have you to do? Are you being faithful in the little things, so that you can be trusted with greater things? Remember that we ultimately get all of our passion and security through our connection to God, and that giving is a joy because he first gave all to us.

CHANGING YOUR MIND

"I am the vine; you are the branches. If a man remains in me and I in him, he will bear much fruit; apart from me you can do nothing." – John 15:5