



These Digging Deeper questions can be used the week following the Sunday message. You can use these questions for personal growth and development, or as a guide for your family or Connect Group discussions.

Message Recap:

Read Ephesians 3:14-21

Billy Graham says 80% of those that attend church have not received Jesus. These people are living a kept life. God's plan for us is to have a *given* life, eternal life through Jesus Christ. Not someday but here and now. God made this possible through the giving of Jesus Christ. We make this a reality through the receiving of Jesus. We are then adopted into God's family. We each become God's favorite! With receiving Jesus, we receive the Holy Spirit. We then overflow with eternal endlessness. In John 7:38 Jesus very loudly proclaimed, "Whoever believes in me, as the scripture has said, streams of living water will flow from within him." But there's trouble with this. We have trouble with this: we have trouble receiving. The more we receive the truth of our value, the more we freely we live from the endless giving of God. Our response is to receive, surrender, give. With this we will become extravagant givers as God intended for his children.

Pray

Jesus, please come into our lives and fill us with the Holy Spirit. Allow eternal life to overflow endlessly. Guide our lives to fulfill our purpose to live a given life. We ask that we hear and know your truths. We pray we will understand the value of our lives and the masterpieces we are having been created by you. Amen.

Getting Started

- If you could choose anything, what would you like to be given? What would you like to give someone else?
- Tell about a time you have been given an unexpected gift out of an unusual circumstance.

Digging Deeper

1. What does mainstream media tell us about giving? According to the "world", whom should be the recipient of our giving?
2. What does the Bible tell us about giving and whom the recipient should be?
3. Define a "Kept Life." What has your experience been with living a kept life? Share any examples or results you can think of.
4. How does God view our giving when we only give what is left over?
5. How does knowing about Jesus and attending church differ from receiving Jesus and having a relationship with him?
6. Define a "Given Life." What action items do you need to take to be fully living the given life?
7. If you have received Jesus, what have you seen as given outcomes in your life? How has your giving affected others?

Living Jesus

You are valued and loved. You are God's amazing masterpiece! Receive Jesus and the Holy Spirit. Surrender your life. Go and live a given life! This is our salvation, not the offerings of this world. Allow the eternal life that you will receive thorough Jesus Christ to overflow endlessly in your life and into the lives around you.