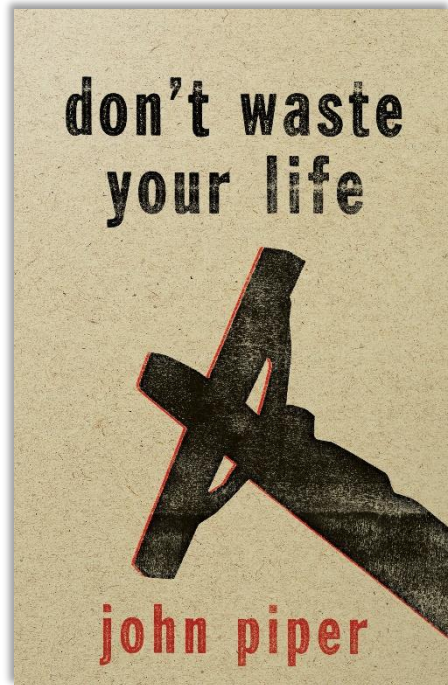


Smedly suggested *Don't Waste Your Life* for August's book of the month because its content complements our current preaching series in Ecclesiastes so well. In this book, John Piper practices what he does best in finding various ways of reiterating the same penetrating biblical truth.

Lord willing, this book will deepen and improve whatever thoughts God has stirred up in your heart through the preaching recently regarding the brevity of life and the importance of daily living every facet of life in light of God's glory and the gospel.

- omri



**Suggested One-Month Reading Plan
(about 5 pages per day)**

Week 1: Monday, Aug 1st – Sunday, Aug 7th

Preface – 2 pages
Chapter 1 – 12 pages
Chapter 2 – 20 pages

Week 2: Monday, Aug 8th – Sunday, Aug 14th

Chapter 3 – 18 pages
Chapter 4 – 18 pages

Week 3: Monday, Aug 15th – Sunday, Aug 21st

Chapter 5 – 20 pages
Chapter 6 – 18 pages

Week 4: Monday, Aug 22nd – Sunday, Aug 28th

Chapter 7 – 24 pages
Chapter 8 – 24 pages

Week 5: Monday, Aug 29th – Sunday, Sep 4th

Chapter 9 – 28 pages
Chapter 10 – 8 pages

QUESTIONS FOR FURTHER REFLECTION FROM THE READING

WEEK 1

1. Consider the major roles, responsibilities, and tasks that currently occupy your life. How does God intend these to bring Him glory and display His ultimate worth?
2. "God's glory, like the filings of gold, is too precious to be lost wherever it drops." How well are you training yourself to notice God's glorious character (1) in God's word, (2) in creation, and (3) in His providential workings in normal, everyday activities (Lamentations 3:37-38)?

WEEK 2

3. If you died tomorrow, would people remember you most for having the glory of God in the gospel as your singular passion and pursuit in life? Why or why not?
4. How might you make the most of a current, or the next, trial that God brings about in your life (consider Phil. 2:14-16; 4:4-9; Col. 3:17; 4:2; 1 Thess. 5:16-18)?

WEEK 3

5. Are there ways in which you have constructed unbiblical ideas about safety and risk-taking? If so, how might you practice right thinking regarding these two concepts?
6. In what ways might you spend yourself to help others know God? Who in your life needs to hear the gospel from you?

WEEK 4

7. How do your spending habits communicate God's sufficiency as well as reflect His radical generosity and mercy?
8. Piper discusses 6 ways that Christians should glorify God in their professional vocations. In which of these ways are you excelling? In which of these 6 ways are you weak? Seek help from others in answering these questions.

WEEK 5

9. Are your understanding and contemplations of the glory of God fueling your desire to preach the gospel to others? (Our sermon series on Missions, preached in 2009 and available at gbcaz.org, will be a helpful resource for you.)
10. What from John Piper's prayer in this chapter might be helpful to incorporate into your own prayer life?