



These questions are designed to extend the impact of the weekend message. Use them to go deeper in your personal study time, with your family and/or with a group.

IT REALLY MATTERS HOW WE DETERMINE WHAT REALLY MATTERS. DISCIPLES TAKE SERIOUSLY THE EVALUATION OF PRIORITIES. IN THIS SERIES WE WILL LET SCRIPTURE INFORM OUR UNDERSTANDING OF WHAT REALLY COUNTS.

1 Distraction keeps us from focusing on what counts. Rick pointed out that *“the struggle for most Christians is not intentional wickedness but unintentional wastefulness.”* Do you agree with that statement? If so, why? Have you experienced this recently in your life?

2 It really matters that we stay focused on what really matters. **Galatians 5:6** says, **“The only thing that counts is faith expressing itself through love.”** How does this statement help answer the question **“What is the very best use of me?”**

3 NOTHING COUNTS without love. Read 1 Corinthians 13:1-3. Does Paul’s position here seem a bit extreme to you? Why or why not? Why wouldn’t acts of charity or gains in knowledge count for something even if love was not involved?

4 LOVE COUNTS MOST when it’s most difficult. Read Luke 6:32-35. We should not give ourselves much credit for love that does not take much effort. What is the difference between the way most people love and the way followers of Jesus should love? And what motivates love that might not be returned?

5 Unconditional love is never wasted even if it is never returned. Why is love never wasted even if it’s not appreciated?

6 YOU CAN ALWAYS COUNT on God’s love. Why is it so hard to trust in the unfailing love of God? **Read 2 Thessalonians 3:5 & Ephesians 3:18.** What role does prayer play in helping us?

7 Keeping ourselves in God’s love will bring out the best in us, and we will be able to give the best of us to what really counts. So, how can we “keep ourselves in God’s love” on a daily basis as stated in Jude 21?

