

## BIG IDEA

We were not made to be so heavenly minded that we are of no earthly use to God.

## WHAT DOES GOD WANT ME TO KNOW?

What causes you to waste your life rather than use it more intentionally?

Why do you think that Americans tend to believe in heaven, even if they don't believe in Jesus?

**Read 2 Peter 3:8-13.** Why doesn't God just take believers to heaven now? What are we supposed to be doing in the meantime while waiting for heaven?

It is God's desire that all people come to repentance and saving knowledge of him. If we aren't joining him in his mission to redeem the world, then we are probably wasting the time he has given us.

## WHAT IS MY INITIAL REACTION?

According to **Matthew 25:31-46**, what separates the "sheep" from the "goats" at the final judgment? Which category would you belong to if your life up to this point was evaluated with this same criteria?

The sheep and goats were not separated by how religious they were or how knowledgeable they were. They were separated according to how they treated those who were most vulnerable in their world. When we are following Jesus, we can be certain that he will lead us right to the poor and the broken.

Take a moment to identify the people in your community who are (both literally and spiritually):

**Don't allow your group to get away with pat answers. Think hard about your own neighborhood and the communities in which you live. There are people who experience deep poverty of materials, relationship, and spiritual nourishment. There may even be people in your life group who are hungry, thirsty, naked, estranged, or imprisoned.**

Hungry:

Thirsty:





# LIFE GROUPS

## LEADER GUIDE

Naked:

Strangers:

Imprisoned:

Would the people above say that Christians care for them, based on the way that we have cared for them? The way *you* have cared for them? Support your answer.

In Jesus' parable, the people who were considered sheep didn't just say they loved people, they actually met their needs. It is one thing to care *about* someone. It is a totally different thing to care *for* someone.

### WHAT AM I GOING TO DO?

Where in your life has God given you "holy discontent"? What is he asking you to do about it?

