



1 Corinthians 10:31
January 2-3, 2016
PASTOR DAN BRUBACHER

WARMING UP

1. Do you typically make New Year's resolutions? Why or why not? What is the premise of a resolution? What difference can resolutions potentially make in someone's life?

DIGGING IN

I resolve to live my life for the glory of God.

What does this mean?

2. How would you explain the concept of God's glory? What ideas are wrapped up together in it? Why is "glory" something more easily observed than defined?
3. Theologians identify two distinct aspects to God's glory—*intrinsic* (Exodus 15:11; Psalm 8:1) and *ascribed* (Psalm 29:1-2). Read the passages and clarify the difference. In what sense is God both fully glorious and also one who can be glorified?
4. How would you answer the following question in simple terms: What does it mean to live for the glory of God? How did Pastor Dan illustrate this concept? Can you think of other examples that would help to uncover its meaning further?

Why is this important?

5. *Because God is passionate about his glory (Isaiah 48:9-11)*. Is it reasonable for God to be radically committed to his own glory—or does this seem egotistical? How so? What other biblical texts advance this theme of God pursuing his own glory?
6. *Because I was created to glorify God (Isaiah 43:6-7)*. Unpack Rick Warren's statement: "It's not about you. . . . If you want to know why you were placed on this planet, you must begin with God." What are the implications? How does fulfilling our intended purpose—glorifying God—bring true satisfaction?
7. *Because I am always glorifying someone or something (Psalm 115:1a)*. Discuss John Stott's assertion: "Ultimately there are only two controlling ambitions . . . one is our own glory, and the other God's." Why do we tend to push against this sort of either-or language? What is your response to God demanding and deserving your total allegiance?

How do I do this?

8. *The love test (1 Peter 4:8, 11b)*. How does genuine love for others bring glory to God? Based on Ephesians 5:1-2, what should our love look like? In which relationship(s) do you find it hardest to express love? How is experiencing God's love as shown in the person and work of Christ the prerequisite for demonstrating genuine love to others?
9. *The gratitude test (Psalm 50:23)*. How does a life marked by thankfulness bring glory to God? What truths about him does an attitude of gratitude acknowledge? How can thankfulness be a challenge in both our high moments and our low moments? What are you grateful for today?
10. *The trust test (Romans 4:18-21)*. How does a life of unwavering faith in God bring him glory? How is Abraham an incredible model in this regard? What is the impact on our level of trust when we recognize that God is in control and that he knows what is best for us? How is God stretching your faith these days?
11. *The good works test (Matthew 5:16)*. How do good works bring glory to God? What are some practical examples of reflecting God's character in our conduct? Discuss Pastor Dan's comment regarding good works: "More significant than our actions are our motivation and dependence." What does this mean?

BREAKING OUT

12. Are you resolved to live your life for the glory of God? What area of your life is God specifically challenging and convicting you to change? What step could you take in this first week of January to bring greater glory to God?