



# MAKE.IT.COUNT. Live Intentionally

#npmakeitcount

Week 4  
4 of 4

August 26, 2018

**Bottom Line:** Make a difference by living intentionally.

**Icebreaker:** Think about your living room. Think about one item that is intentionally in that room because it is important to you, and tell why.

**Key Verse:** *I have fought the good fight, I have finished the race, I have kept the faith.* 2 Timothy 4:7 NIV

Before Paul met Jesus, he was a determined, passionate man. In fact, he was driven by his own passionate ideas. But, from the moment Paul met Jesus Christ, he was determined to make an eternal difference with his life. He was intentional about the way he lived his life. He spent everything, held nothing back, and he got to the end of his life knowing he had lived it to the fullest. He refused to be defined by his past, and chose to honor God with all he had, and he enjoyed his life to the fullest. That's why he was able to make the powerful statement, "I have fought the good fight, I have finished the race, I have kept the faith." He found his assignment in life, and found tremendous satisfaction in intentionally making a difference. He didn't watch God from a distance, and he didn't simply listen to stories of what God was doing in the lives of others. He opened his heart and life to obedient and intentional living, and God did more with his life than he could have ever imagined.

God's desire and call to each one of us is to get victory over our fears, pains, and failures, and, like Paul, step into the life we were created to live. He wants us to live with purpose, intentionally. Don't sit around waiting for great things to happen, MAKE them happen on purpose as you live your life with vision and drive. It doesn't matter just to us, it matters to the world. Erwin McManus says, "The tragedy of a life that is never fully lived is not solely the loss of that one life. The tragedy is the endless number of lives that would have been forever changed if we had chosen to live differently."

Whom and what does God want to change? Where does He want to make a difference that can only be shaped by you? Living intentionally means investing your life in the things that matter most; the things that outlast you.

## THINK IT OVER >>>

What impacted you most from Sunday's message?

Discuss the following statements:

"If you don't handle the fears, failures, and pain in your life, you won't make it count."

"If you don't deal with the paralyzing power of fear in your life, you will never live the life you were created to live." – Erwin McManus

"The only things that can make you fear are the things you are afraid to lose."

"It takes courage to imagine."

"Fear is the enemy of a healthy relationship with God."

"Jesus didn't come to give us a way out of pain; He came to give us a way through pain."

## LOOK IT OVER <<<

"People want to define us by our worst moments, but God sees in us a greatness we cannot see in ourselves." Agree or disagree? How have you experienced this?

Has a painful experience ever been used by God to change your mind and life? Share.

We are called to make a BIG difference as we serve a BIG God. If we choose to lead a small ordinary life, we do not make room for a big God. How can we open our lives for God's BIG things to have a chance?

"If you want a different life, you have to give up the one you have" (Erwin McManus). What does this mean? How do you give up your life? What do you feel when you think of that? Think of the people you know (biblical, historical, or current) who best illustrate this?

# NEXT STEPS

This week consider taking some next steps together as a group:

- 1) What do you want to be remembered for?
- 2) What do you need to eliminate from your life?

## EVALUATION/ACTION

Realizing and reaching your full potential in Christ

**Bottom Line:** Make a difference by living intentionally.

Rate yourself from 1 to 10 1 (never), 10 (always)	1	2	3	4		6	7	8	9	10
Why did you give yourself this rating?										
What benefits will you obtain by raising your rating?										
Do you know someone who demonstrates this bottom line well? What do you admire about that person?										
What specific action can you put into practice to raise your rating?										
At the end of this week, reflect - where did you see the bottom line show up in your actions throughout the week?										

## PRAYER

List group members and their prayer requests for this week:

## DAILY STUDY

Want to dig deeper? Check out **The Daily** at [newpointe.org/daily](http://newpointe.org/daily):

Monday: Ephesians 5:15

Tuesday: Hebrews 12:14-15

Wednesday: Romans 8:31

Thursday: 1 Peter 4:19; Proverbs 20:30

Friday: Proverbs 24:16; Proverbs 28:13

***Don't let the conversation stop here. Keep talking it over with others throughout the week.***  
*(Don't forget to bring this paper to your next small group meeting)*