

# work rest play

LEADER'S NOTES ©

**Ken Moser**

EFFECTIVE  
YOUTH MINISTRY  
PRESS





## LEADER'S NOTES

Dear Youth Leader,

Welcome to Effective Youth Ministry Press free leader's notes!

These leader's notes are for the Youth Bible study booklet *Work Rest Play* that is for sale from [www.effectiveyouthministry.com](http://www.effectiveyouthministry.com)

These notes are designed to assist your preparation and enable you to get the most out of your Bible study time.

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# work rest play introduction

## Welcome to Work, Rest, Play!

While there are other aspects to life besides work, rest, and play, these three sum up almost everything.

How do we work in a way that honors the Lord? How do we avoid being greedy? How do we find time to take a day off? Is it possible to get everything done and still go to weekly Bible study and youth group? How should we behave in our times of fun and recreational activities? These are big questions. The great news is that God's word has a lot to say about how to work, rest, and play in a way that pleases God.

In this series, you will examine God's plan for what it means to work, some guidelines for taking a day off, and how to conduct yourself when you are engaged in leisure activities.

My prayer is that these studies are a real help in these big areas!

**Ken Moser**

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## Work Rest Play • leader's notes: study 1

# Work Part 1: DON'T BE LAZY!

This study is designed to show your group that:

1. The wise life is a life of diligent work.
2. God wants his people to avoid laziness.
3. A lack of work leads to a lack of food and your basic needs being met.
4. God takes it seriously when someone refuses to work—and so should we.

### let's get started

Have everyone in the group share their answers to sharing question 1.

Have everyone in the group share their answers to sharing question 2.

Have someone in the group read the story about Greg aloud and then ask volunteers to choose what they would say to Greg by circling one of the answers listed. When everyone is finished ask volunteers to share their answers.

### going deeper

#### The "sluggard" v. the ant

Ask one or more volunteers to read Proverbs 6:6-11.

**Do you know what a "sluggard" is? What is another word or term you would use?** A lazy person

**What does the ant do that we should admire and imitate?** Prepares food. Gathers food for the future.

**What are the things the sluggard does wrong?** Sleeps and rests too much. Sits around instead of working.

**What consequences will the sluggard face?** Poverty and having his/her needs unmet.

Ask the group to share what they think they could do to avoid being a sluggard.

#### More from Proverbs!

Ask one or more volunteers to read Proverbs 24:30-34.

**What did the unwise lazy man do? What should he have done instead?** He did not tend to his field. Kept it free of weeds, kept the wall up, used the field to produce a crop.

**What did the author of this proverb learn from the sluggard?** Laziness will lead to poverty and a lack of basic needs like food.

#### Let's move to the New Testament: If you don't work, you don't eat!

Read 2 Thessalonians 3:6-13

**Why do you think some people are lazy?**

**Why does the Apostle Paul warn us to stay away from a Christian who does not want to work?** Laziness could spread among the believers. Paul wants them to follow his example as an alternative.

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**What was the example he set for the believers there? (See v. 7-9)** He did not live in an undisciplined way, he paid for his needs and he worked night and day in order to not be a burden.

**Why do you think Paul says "If you don't work you don't eat?" (v. 10)** The lazy person must be taught that God wants his people to work and not be lazy. They will learn this by going hungry.

**What are the people doing that he is arguing against? (See v.11)** They are lazy and spend their time gossiping (being a "busybody" = gossiping).

Have you ever met someone who just won't work? What would you say to them in light of this teaching?

### **Greg revisited**

Discuss the story about Greg at the start of the study and work out what he needs to do and what you think his mother should do.

### **More wisdom from the book of Proverbs**

If you have time select some or all of the passages from Proverbs and read what this books says on the topic of work.

### *getting active*

**How can this group help each other not to be lazy?** We need to encourage each other and be examples to each other of working hard. When one of us is lazy we must be willing to rebuke and correct him/her.

Discuss whether any of our attitudes to work needs to change.

### **let's pray**

Lead a prayer time using the listed suggestions and spend some time praying about what they have learned in today's study. Pray also for any other matters the group shares.

## Work Rest Play • leader's notes: study 2

# Work part 2: BE CAREFUL OF GREED

This study is designed to show your group that:

1. We must avoid greed at all costs.
2. Our wealth must not keep us from a relationship with God.
3. We must live generous lives—God loves it when we are characterized by giving.

Be prepared, there is a lot of material here. If you find there you are not getting through all the material, you may want divide it into two Bible studies.

### let's get started

Have everyone in the group share their answers to sharing question 1 by placing a check in the box that best matches their answer. When everyone has chosen an answer have him/her share what the amount was and why he/she chose that amount.

Have someone in the group read the story about Christie aloud and then ask volunteers to choose advice they would give to Christie by circling one of the answers listed. When everyone is finished ask volunteers to share their answers.

Ask volunteers to share their answers to sharing question 2.

Ask volunteers to share their answers to sharing question 3.

### going deeper

**Be very careful, part 1: The story of the Rich Fool: Read Luke 12:13-21.**

**The "sluggard" v. the ant**

Ask one or more volunteers to read Luke 12:13-21.

Ask volunteers if there is anything that impacts them from this story.

**What is Jesus warning us about?** The danger of greed; the danger of seeing you life as 'having an abundance of possessions'; the danger of a life of material wealth without being rich toward God.

**Ask everyone to look at v 15 again. Why do you think Jesus is so emphatic here?** Because that is our danger – we see our life as consisting of what we own. This was the problem for the person in the crowd.

**What did the man in the story do that was wrong?** He was greedy and he shut God out of his life.

Ask volunteers to share if they have ever met anyone like this.

**How can we use our work to be "rich towards God?"** Give generously. Don't work so much that you shut God out of your life.

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What lessons are there for us in this story? **Be very careful with wealth. Be rich toward God.**

**Be very careful part 2: You could get trapped. Read 1 Timothy 6:6-10.**

**List every bad thing that is attached with wanting to get rich in this passage.** Temptation; trap; harmful desires; plunge into ruin and destruction; root of all kinds of evil; wandering away from the faith; pierced with many pains.

Ask volunteers to share their opinions on whether it is realistic to not want to be rich.

**What should we be aiming for instead (v.6-8)?** Godliness and contentment (being satisfied in our relationship with God.)

**What is the end result for many Christians who desire to be rich (v.10)?** Wandering from the faith and pain.

**What must we do in order to avoid this?** Be on our guard. Keep each other accountable.

**Think Spot 1: But what if I'm rich, and I just can't help it?**

Read the paragraph about being rich and then ask a volunteer to read 1 Timothy 6:17-19.

**What must we not do?** Put our hope (trust) in wealth.

**What must we not be?** Proud or arrogant.

**What are we to do instead?** Be rich in good works. Be Generous. Ready to share.

**What is the promise given to us if we don't get trapped by money?** A treasure for the future (in eternal life).

**What are some habits that you can build into your life to be generous and to make sure you don't get trapped by wealth?** Some suggested answers: Give a percentage of what you earn; try to increase your giving as you earn more (ie. Moving from 10% to 15% to 20% etc.); praying about your wealth; have friends who encourage generosity and keep you accountable; do not get into too much debt; don't buy things you cannot afford.

**Think Spot 2: Be generous: 2 Corinthians 9:6-8**

Read the paragraph about being generous then ask a volunteer to read 2 Corinthians 9:6-8.

**What does it mean to "sow sparingly"?** To not be generous with giving away our money, time, possessions etc.

**What does it mean to "reap sparingly"?** We will not see a generous blessing.

**Why do you think God loves a "cheerful giver"?** Because God is generous- he has given us life, our wealth and his son who gave up his life for us on the cross.

**What does this mean for us right now?** Give away money (pocket money or allowance, give a percentage of any money we earn)

**What does it mean for us in the future?** When we earn more, we must give more. (We must also be generous with our time and belongings).

**How much of our income do you think we should try to give away?** Ask volunteers to share their answers. Note: this is a matter of personal decision. The common view has been to 'tithe' which is 10% and to be generous on top of this—often called an 'offering'.

**Helping each other**

Ask volunteers to share advice they might give Christie (the example at the start of the study) in light of what has been read from God's word in this study.

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**How can we encourage each other to be careful when it comes to wealth?** Pray with and for each other. Set an example for each other. Take on a project that this group could support financially. etc.

Ask volunteers to share if there anything that needs to change in our attitudes toward money.

## let's pray

Lead a prayer time using the listed suggestions and spend some time praying about what they have learned in today's study. Pray also for any other matters the group shares.



## Work Rest Play • leader's notes: study 3

# Rest part 1: Take time off

This study is designed to show your group that:

1. We must take a time to rest from work each week.
2. We must follow Jesus' example by taking time out to rest and pray.
3. Heaven will be a place of rest..

Be prepared, just like the previous study, there is a lot of content here..

### let's get started

Have everyone in the group share their answers to sharing question 1 by placing a check in the box that best matches their answer. When everyone has chosen an answer have each one share his/her answers.

Have someone in the group read the story about Brad aloud and then ask volunteers share their advice by answering the two questions below the story.

Ask volunteers to share their answers to sharing question 2.

### going deeper

#### Work hard and then enjoy a day of rest

Ask one or more volunteers to read Exodus 20:8-11

#### If you were to live out these verses, what would you avoid doing on your day off?

Whatever is called 'work' in your life. For most of us, this is either study or our money making job.

**Is it practical in these busy times to take a day off each week?** No, but God commands it.

**What do you say to someone who says, "But I just have too much to do to take a day off?"** Be careful, don't be deceived—God wants us to rest. It is the best way to get the most out of life. (If you have 'too much to do' you may need to cut some things out of your life.)

**What do you need to do in order to have a day off?** Ask volunteers to share what they need to do to take a day off.

If you want to read more and have the time you can look up Exodus 31:12-18. Otherwise let people know they can ready this later if they wish.

#### Even God took a day off!

Read Genesis 2:1-3.

**What had God been doing the previous 6 days?** Creating the heavens and the earth.

**Why do think he took the next day off?** To set a pattern as an example to us.

**Why was this day so special?** Because God declared it to be.

**If it was important for God to "rest," what does this tell us?** We must follow his example and take a day of rest as well.

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### **Even Jesus took a break now and then**

Ask three volunteers to read the three Bible passages (Matthew 14:13, Mark 6:30-32, Luke 5:15-16)

**Why did Jesus decide to take a break?** Matthew=he received bad news. Mark=he needed a rest. Luke=to pray.

**What actions did he take to make it happen?** He went to a place where there were no people.

**What does he model for us?** We need to get away regularly to recover, rest and pray and connect with God.

Ask volunteers to share what a "quiet, restful day" would look like for them.

### **God's ultimate goal for us—to have eternal rest**

Ask three volunteers to read the three Bible passages (Matthew 11:28-30, Hebrews 4:9-11, Revelation 14:13) and share what they teach about God's ultimate plan is for us. God wants us to have an eternal rest which is heaven.

**What does it mean that Jesus promises us "rest?" What is it rest from?** Rest from trying to fulfill the requirements of the law which we receive through trusting in him for our salvation. It is a rest from striving to save ourselves.

**What do you think eternal rest will consist of?** Ask volunteers to share their views of what rest in heaven will be like. It includes rest from things like pain, dying and anxiety.

Ask volunteers to share what they would encourage Brad (the example at the start of the study) to do in light of today's study.

### **Helping each other**

Ask volunteers to share if there anything that needs to change in light of today's study.

Ask volunteers to share what they must do (or drop) in order to take a day off.

**What would you say to someone who says, "My parents would never let me have a day of rest?"** Suggested answers: They need to pray for wisdom; they need to set an example by getting their work done in six days (homework etc.); they need to speak with their parents and try to explain what they would like to see happen; they should learn to negotiate (for example, "if I do all my homework and household chores, may I take a day off".)

**How can this group help each other with this issue?** Pray; set examples; encourage each other to take time off each week.

## **let's pray**

Lead a prayer time using the listed suggestions and spend some time praying about what they have learned in today's study. Pray also for any other matters the group shares.

## Work Rest Play • Leader's Notes: Study 4

# Rest Part 2: Be in Christian Fellowship

This study is designed to show your group that:

1. We must give high priority to meeting with other believers each week.
2. We must encourage each other so that we do not grow a hard heart against God.
3. We must meet regularly in Christian fellowship to encourage other believers.

### let's get started

Have everyone in the group share their answers to sharing question 1 by circling one or more options listed that best matches their answer. When everyone has chosen an answer have each one share his/her answers then share what can make it hard for them to go to youth group and Bible study each week.

Have someone in the group read the story about Wendy aloud, then ask everyone to check a box from the options listed that best matches the advice they would give her. Discuss your answers.

### going deeper

#### **Meeting with other Christians will keep your heart soft.**

Ask one or more volunteers to read Hebrews 3:12-14.

**What is the danger that each of us faces according to v. 12?** Having a sinful, unbelieving heart that turns away from God.

**What is the solution to this in v. 13?** Encourage each other daily.

**What is the promise that is given to us in v. 14?** We will go to heaven (share in Christ) if we stay Christian.

Ask volunteers to share if they have ever met with other Christians and come away from the time feeling spiritually stronger as a result.

If you would like to you can read the passages before and after the reading (3:7-11 & 3:16-19) to understand more about the dangers we face. Otherwise the young people can read these passages themselves during the week.

#### **Keep spurring each other on**

Ask one or two volunteers to read Hebrews 10:23-27.

**What are we told to do in v. 23?** Hold firmly to the hope we have in Jesus.

**What is the promise we are given in this verse?** Jesus is faithful—he will bring us to eternal life because of his death and resurrection.



**Why is it important to continue in Christian fellowship, at places like youth group or Bible study, according to v.24-25?** To encourage other believers to be loving and do good things.

**What happens to those who hear the message and continue to live in disobedience? (v. 26-27)**  
Judgment and punishment.

### **Being 'refreshed'... being a 'refresher'**

Read the paragraph about meeting together then ask four volunteers to read the four Bible passages (Romans 15:31-32, 1 Corinthians 16:17-19, 2 Timothy 1:15-17, Philemon 1:7 (See also v. 20) and note what it teaches about how we can affect one another and why it is important to meet together.

[NOTE: Philemon 1:7 is incorrectly listed twice.]

### **Wendy revisited**

Ask volunteers to share what they would encourage Wendy (the example at the start of the study) to do in light of today's study. Also share what you think she should say to her boss.

### **Helping each other**

**What can you do to make sure that you can meet with other Christians each week?** Make sure that you go to youth group/Bible study/church to encourage others.

Ask volunteers to share if there anything they must change to make Christian fellowship a priority in their life.

### **What should we do if one of us begins to skip out on youth group or this small group?**

Suggested answers: Meet with them and try to talk them into not skipping; perhaps go through their schedule to see if you can help them organize their time in order to keep going to youth group; offer to pick them up or travel with them to youth group; go through Hebrews 10:23-27 and explain the seriousness of the issue.

## **let's pray**

Lead a prayer time using the listed suggestions and spend some time praying about what they have learned in today's study. Pray also for any other matters the group shares.

## Work Rest Play • leader's notes: study 5

# Play Part 1: Honor Jesus on the Sporting Field

This study is designed to show your group that:

1. We need to be thankful to God for all things—including sports.
2. We must undertake sporting competition in a way that honors God.
3. We must seek to love those we compete against.
4. We must make sure that our commitment to sport doesn't get in the way of our commitment to Jesus.

### let's get started

Ask everyone to share their answers to sharing question 1.

Have everyone in the group share their answers to sharing question 2 by placing a check in the boxes that best match their answers. When everyone has chosen an answer have each one share his/her answers.

Have someone in the group read the story about Matt aloud and then ask volunteers share their advice by answering the two questions below the story.

### going deeper

Read the opening sentence aloud.

#### **Do it all for God's glory.**

Ask a volunteer to read Colossians 3:17.

#### **How can we play sport "in the name of the Lord Jesus?" (Can you give practical examples?)**

Suggested answers: Play fair; don't fight or get too aggressive; congratulate teams who make good plays or win.

**What does it mean to "give thanks to God" on the sporting field?** Suggestions: thank him for the opportunity to enjoy health and athletic movement; thank him for the facilities or the outdoors you enjoy; thank him for teammates and friends.

#### **How should a Christian be a different athlete or sportsman compared to a non-Christian?**

Suggested answers: play fair; don't take it too seriously; don't get too angry; congratulate other players/teams.

#### **Love your enemy—love those who play against you**

Ask one or two volunteers to read Luke 6:27-31.

**How do we relate what these verses teach us to sport and competition?** We must love our competitors.

**How can we be loving and still play to win?** These two concepts aren't mutually exclusive. We can love those we compete against and still try to win.

• **What do we do if we are playing against someone (or a team) that we really dislike?**

Pray for strength to not get angry. Try not to take the whole thing too seriously (if possible).

**What do we do if a referee makes a bad call against our team? What must our attitude be toward the ref?** We must accept the referee's decision; we must respect the referee/s; we must try not to rip him/her/them apart behind their back.

### **Great sporting metaphors from the Bible**

Read the first sentence in the paragraph aloud. If you have time ask five volunteers to read the Bible passages (Acts 20:24, 1 Corinthians 9:24-27, 1 Timothy 4:8, 2 Timothy 2:5, 2 Timothy 4:7-8) and see what they say about how we are to live as followers of Jesus.

### **Running the race—staying a Christian**

Ask a volunteer to read Hebrews 12:1-3.

**What is the race that the Bible wants us to stay committed to?** The Christian race—following Jesus.

**What is every Christian in danger of? (v.3)** Getting tangled up by sin.

**How can our involvement in sports cause us to become "entangled?"** We can skip Christian fellowship to pursue sports.

### **Helping each other**

• Ask volunteers to share what they would say to Matt (the example at the start of the study) in light of today's study.

Ask if volunteers would like to share anything that we must do differently in light of our study.

## **let's pray**

Lead a prayer time using the listed suggestions and spend some time praying about what they have learned in today's study. Pray also for any other matters the group shares.

work rest play • leader's notes: study 6

# play part 2: The Christian and Parties • HONOR JESUS WITH YOUR SOCIAL LIFE

This study is designed to show your group that:

1. We must be careful of and avoid parties that contain unhelpful aspects.
2. We must live in a way that honors Jesus—everywhere, including at a party.
3. We must stay away from sinful desires that may surface at a party.
4. Heaven will be a place of great joy and happiness (like a good party)

## let's get started

Ask everyone to answer question 1 by placing a mark on the line to best describe how much he/she likes to go to parties. When everyone is finished, share you answers.

Ask everyone to share their answers to sharing question 2.

Have someone in the group read the story about Penny aloud and then ask volunteers share their advice by answering the two questions below the story.

## going deeper

Read the opening sentence aloud.

**Be careful and put aside the "deeds of darkness."**

Ask one or two volunteers to read Romans 13:11-14.

**Why is it important to live in a way that honors Jesus according to this passage?** We are to live as if it were 'daytime' as Jesus is coming back soon.

**What do you think it means to "put aside the deeds of darkness and put on the armor of light?" Can you give practical examples?** Get rid of things that characterize the non-Christian life or what your life was like before you became a Christian. Things such as stealing, drunkenness, fighting, lust, greed etc.

**What insight does this section from God's word give us about unhelpful parties?** We must stay away. They are 'darkness'.

What would happen if you told your friends that you would not go to a party because of drunkenness or sexual immorality? Have everyone circle one of the answers listed and then discuss your answers.

### **Honoring Jesus at a party**

Ask a volunteer to read 1 Peter 2:11-12.

**What do these verses tell us about how we should conduct ourselves at a party?** We must see ourselves as people who don't belong to this world (we are 'aliens'). We must stay away from our desire to sin (drinking, getting together with someone of the opposite sex, drugs, etc.)

**What does v. 12 mean for us practically—how can we live "a good life" at a party?** Steer clear of unhelpful things. Try to shine for Jesus. Take opportunities to do good things, talk about God, explain why you don't get drunk.

**What things should you do/not do?** Some suggestions: drinking alcohol if you underage; drugs; one night stands.

**What do you do if your friends (or the crowd) are getting out of control?** Call your parents to get a ride home or simply leave.

What do you do if...

Read each scenario aloud and ask volunteers to share their suggestions. Below are some suggested answers.

**You have a Christian friend who wants to go to a party that you know will have alcohol/drugs/unhelpful behavior etc.?** Talk to them; warn them; try to encourage them to go to some other activity (perhaps with you).

**You have a Christian friend who you see getting involved in bad stuff at a party?** Try to look after them; speak with them privately; speak with them a day or two later and explain why this was wrong behaviour.

If you have time you can read more on this topic in 1 Peter 4:1-5, otherwise you can suggest the young people read it later.

### **Heaven—the ultimate good time**

Have some volunteers read Revelation 21:1-8.

**Then as a group to try list as many good things as you can that this passage tells us about what awaits us:** Some obvious answers: we will live with God (v. 3); we will be his people (v. 3); God will live with us (v. 3); God will wipe away every tear (he will comfort us) (v. 4); no more death, mourning, crying or pain (v. 4); no longer thirst (this is likely referring to a thirst/longing for God) (v. 6); we will be God's children (v 7); no-one who rejects God by their actions will be there (eg. no bullies, no nasty people etc).

**What would you say to someone who...**

Read each scenario aloud and ask volunteers to share their suggestions. Below are some suggested answers.

**Is a Christian and feels like they are missing out because they can't go to unhelpful parties?**

Explain that what they are 'missing out' on will ultimately harm them and dishonor Jesus.

Says, "Being a Christian is boring?" Jesus give us life and life to the full (John 10:10)

Says, "I want to go to hell and party with my friends?" Hell is a place of judgment with no relationships. The party will be in heaven.



If you have time you can read more on this topic in Revelation 22:1-6, otherwise you can suggest the young people read it later.

### **Helping each other**

Ask volunteers to share what they would say to Penny (the example at the start of the study) in light of what they have read from the Bible in today's study.

Ask if volunteers would like to share anything that we must do differently in light of our study.

## **let's pray**

Lead a prayer time using the listed suggestions and spend some time praying about what they have learned in today's study. Pray also for any other matters the group shares.

Work Rest Play • Leader's Notes: BONUS STUDY

# BONUS STUDY: STAYING STRONG IN A BUSY, BUSY WORLD

This study is designed to show your group that:

1. We must realize that God will judge us for everything we do. With this in mind, we must never 'forget' him.
2. We must deny ourselves and follow Jesus. This means our busyness must not get in the way of our following Jesus.
3. We must be careful of what this world offers. Being too busy may simply be one of the traps that will take us away from God.

## let's get started

Ask everyone to answer question 1 by placing a mark on the line to best describe how busy he/she thinks they are. When everyone is finished, share you answers.

- Have everyone in the group share their answers to sharing question 2 by circling the answer/s that best matches their opinion/s. When everyone has chosen their answers have each one share his/her answers.

Have someone in the group read the story about Nick aloud and then ask volunteers share their advice by answering the four questions below the story.

## going deeper

### Whatever you do, don't forget your creator

Have some volunteers read Ecclesiastes 12:1 & 12:13-14.

**What does it mean to "remember your creator" when you are young?** Can you give practical examples? Suggested answers: live in a way that shows he is Lord of your life; read about him; meet with other believers.

**What are the reasons given to remember God? (v. 14)** God will judge what we do.

**Why do you think the writer ends with this statement?** Because it is most important to remember (that we will be judged.)

Ask volunteers to share whether they have ever known someone who forgot about God.

**How can being too busy cause us to forget God?** We get too preoccupied with other things and place our relationship with God to the side.

### Deny yourself. Don't lose your soul

Ask one or two volunteers to read Mark 8:34-37.

**What does it mean to “deny ourselves” when it comes to being busy?** Even when we have a lot of things to do we must honor God and give him our time.

**How does someone “deny himself/herself” and still please their parents and teachers?**

**Is this possible?** Suggested answers: firstly, yes, it is possible but it will take some work; we must be organized; get our homework done (if the amount given is reasonable); do our household duties; we must also speak with our parents and explain to them that we want to be a Christian as well.

Ask volunteers to share if there is anything that they need to cut out of their lives in order to follow Jesus more closely.

**Don't be like Demas who was once a follower of Jesus but left because he “loved the world.”**

Read the introduction about Demas then ask a volunteer to read 2 Timothy 4:9-10.

**What does this tell us about Paul's former associate?** He fell in love with the world. He left God to pursue worldly pleasures.

**Why do you think he left—can you come up with some reasons or things he may have been in search of?** Some suggestions: money, sex, material possessions, gaining assets for the future.

**What is the warning for us in the example of Demas?** Suggested answer: Demas was once a follower of Christ and companion of Paul but gave in to temptation. We must not think that we cannot fall into temptation.

**Be careful of what this world offers—it is passing away**

Ask a volunteer to read 1 John 2:15-17.

**What reasons are we given for “not loving the world?”** Loving the world is a love that comes from sin and not from God. Plus, the world is passing away.

**What is the connection between “loving the world” and being busy?** Our love for the world (gaining good grades, gathering material possessions etc.) can cause us to do things other than enjoy Christian fellowship and pursue a life with Jesus.

**Give some practical examples of what it mean for us to not love the world.** Some suggestions: don't be too concerned with gathering wealth; be careful of the pursuit of top grades; be careful with pursuing things that will keep us from reading our Bible and going to church.

**Helping each other**

Ask volunteers if they would change what they would say to Nick (the example at the start of the study) in light of what they have read from the Bible in today's study.

Ask volunteers to share their answers to the questions about dealing with busyness in their own lives.

**let's pray**

Lead a prayer time using the listed suggestions and spend some time praying about what they have learned in today's study. Pray also for any other matters the group shares.

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## Other recommended resources for your youth ministry:

### Small Group Bible Studies

Starting Out  
By Ken Moser

Starting Out Volume #2  
By Ken Moser

Work Rest Play  
By Ken Moser

Young Men  
By Ken Moser

Young Women  
By Julie Moser

Big Issues For Today's Youth  
By Ken Moser

Ephesians Ultimate Social Network  
By Luke Thompson

Studies 2 Go  
By Julie Moser

More Studies 2 Go  
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