



Icebreaker:

What do you look forward to doing in the spring?

Announcements:

Invite a friend to join you for our series "Grit."

Prayer Time:

Pray for our building project as the east wing comes down in the next few days.

Study Questions:

Why are some people more successful than other people? Have you ever known someone who had great promise but never reached their potential? What prevented them from being a high achiever?

What are your thoughts on the West Point student drop out rate? What factor did the Whole Candidate Score neglect? What happens to some people who are really smart but face a problem they cannot easily solve? How can our own ability to do some things

easily keep us from putting in the effort we need to do even bigger things when they are hard?

Why do people gravitate to talent, family money, attractiveness, and IQ to explain success? How do each of these areas fall short in explaining success?

Read James 5:16–18; Psalm 102:1–3. What role does prayer play in the believer's life? How does God often use us to be the answer to our own prayers?

Have you ever known someone who was "so heavenly minded they were no earthly good?" How does an inactive life hoping for a future heaven fall short of what God wants for our lives? See Matthew 28:18–20; Acts 1:7–8

How can a solid work ethic and a gritty approach to our careers actually miss the mark– read Luke 12:15–21? How can our work ethic become misguided and our grit misfocused? What perspective was this man missing? Why did it never dawn on him to look at his work and the wealth it produced from an eternal perspective? What does Jesus say in Luke 16:9 about the importance of generosity? What lasts longer than our money? *How is Paul different* from the guy with the barns– contrast Luke 12:19 with 1 Cor. 15:32.

Why should we– Be Gritty– Work Hard and Pray Hard? What happens if one of these elements is missing? How does Paul embody both– read 1 Cor. 15:10; 2 Timothy 1:3. How can we better live out both?

Conversational Prayer: Dear God help me...