

DIGDEEPER

December 13, 2015
Ephesians 3:13 ([Listen](#))
Dr. Richard Rogers

THE BIG IDEA

In our daily lives, we are often prone to forget that life is about so much more than our routine. God is crafting a story throughout human history, and our lives have a part to play. It may be small in comparison to the whole, but it is important nonetheless. So, it is critical that we consistently lift our eyes to Jesus and not lose heart in living our lives to the full so that God might be glorified through them.

START A CONVERSATION (Use this to begin a Conversation that Matters with your kids, co-workers, spouse, or someone in line at the grocery store. Then, [tell us about it.](#))

What things do you celebrate at Christmas and why?

SOME THINGS TO THINK ABOUT

- What does your average, routine day look like? On what and with whom are the majority of your energy, time, and resources spent?
- Richard said, “We have an opportunity to be light where it seems darkest.” What is one place or relationship in your life that needs a little light this Christmas? What is one way you can provide it this week?
- Paul encourages the Ephesians to not lose heart since the suffering he is experiencing has a good purpose behind it. What does it look like to lose heart, and where are you tempted to do just that?
- When you consider the way you’re tempted to despair, talk through what might God be doing in that circumstance or relationship. What are practical, real world ways you can encourage your own heart to hope in God?

GO DEEPER

- Christmas is one of the most evangelism-friendly times in our culture, but it is also a time when we make ourselves busy with other things. Watch as Rico Tice explains one of the things we need to [make the most of this season.](#)
- The Bible is God’s story in history. But, how do orient our lives around its story? Watch as Nancy Guthrie explains [the Bible’s big story.](#) It’s a powerful and helpful exercise—especially at Christmas—to help you get a sense of what’s going on around you right now.
- One of the best ways to remind yourself of the truth and ensure you don’t lose heart in the middle of the mundane is to fill your mind with Scripture by committing it to memory. Here’s [a smorgasboard of memorization methods](#) if you’re unsure of how to begin. Similarly, Jemar Tisby lays out [a simple four day method.](#)

LIVE IN LOVE THIS WEEK

It’s likely you’ll see lots of friends, family, and retail employees over the next week or two. What one thing is most important to communicate with them this Christmas? What might that sound like for these different groups in your life?