

DRIFTING

WEEK 1
THE BIGGER STORY
DANNY ANDERSON

Same _____, different day.

1. You are waiting for what **happens** **next**.
 2. You have no **clarity**.
 3. You don't have a **plan**.
 4. You're **bored**, **unmotivated** or **frustrated**.
 5. You don't **know** who you are.
- You can **change** your **story**.

"I've never walked out of a meaningless movie thinking all movies were meaningless. I only thought the movie I walked out on was meaningless. I wonder, then, if when people say life is meaningless, what they really mean is their lives are meaningless. I wonder if they've chosen to believe their whole existence is unremarkable, and are projecting their dreary lives on the rest of us." Donald Miller

We avoid drifting with a **life** **vision**.

"All things are created twice. There is a mental or first creation, and a physical or second creation to all things." Steven Covey

"No horse gets anywhere until it's harnessed, no steam or gas ever drives anything until it is confined, no Niagara is ever turned into light and power until it is channeled, and no life ever grows great until it is focused, dedicated, and disciplined." Harry Emerson Fostic

*"...the **Author** of life."* Acts 3:15

*...**Author** and finisher of our faith.* Hebrews 12:2

The Author **wrote** **you** into his story.

For we are God's masterpiece. He has created us anew in Christ Jesus, so we can do the **good things** he **planned** for us long ago.
Ephesians 2:10

"God has a blueprint for your life." William McDonald

You find your role in his story by **valuing** what God values.

*"I delight to do your **will**, O my God; your **law** is within my **heart**."*
Psalms 40:8

Take **action**.

*"Seek first the **kingdom** of God and his righteousness and all these things will be added unto you."* *Matthew 6:33*

DRIFTING



For Group Discussion

Answer these questions prior to your Small Group meeting this week.

Introduction

Millions and millions of people today are simply drifting through life. Because they have no plan for the future, they have no impact on those around them. Their potential is completely wasted. In order to avoid the feeling that all of life is meaningless, we must understand our role in God's kingdom and the work we are called to do.

Discussion Questions

1. If someone were to make a movie of your life, would people want to come and see it? Why or why not?

Dallas Willard wrote, "Where accident, drift, or imposition dominate...very little of any human value transpires." What are some of the reasons people use to give themselves permission to drift?

2. When you are "drifting," you're waiting for what happens next, you have no clarity on where you're going, you don't have a plan, you're bored/unmotivated/frustrated, and/or you don't really know who you are. Share a time when you were drifting. What inspired you to change?

Read Daniel 1:8-17. Daniel was able to avoid drifting because he had a plan – a clear vision for his life that helped him stay focused. In which areas of your life would you say you have a clear vision that helps you stay focused? How did you develop this idea for your life?

3. Read Ephesians 2:10. God has a plan for each one of us, and has written us into His story to accomplish His plan. Do you feel you understand God's plan for your life well enough to fulfill your role in His story? Why or why not?

In order to find and fulfill your role in His story, you must value what God values. Read Psalm 40:8 and Matthew 6:33. What are some specific things you have learned to delight in, or have begun to seek, because you have recognized they are valuable to God? How has valuing what God values changed your perspective in these areas of your life?

4. Just like the men and women in the Bible, we are part of God's story. Each of them followed through on an idea, but those ideas were given to them by God. How can you determine if the plans you have are your ideas or God's ideas?

What are some ideas you feel God has placed on your heart? Have you taken action? Why or why not?

What steps will you take in the coming week to find and fulfill your role in God's story?

OUTREACH: GROUPS IN ACTION

A team traveling to Colombia needs your toys! (Small stuffed animals like beanie babies, happy meal toys, small balls) These will be passed out to over 1200 children. Please bring them to the office during the week or the information counter at your campus, between now and June 4. Contact Kerry Carmichael at kcarmichael@eclife.org for more information.

Occasionally, we need groups to help with a funeral meal to help serve the family in need. Would your group be willing to sign up to help? Let us know if you would be willing to be on a list to call when a need arises. Contact Kerry Carmichael at kcarmichael@eclife.org for more information.

Action Step

Fill in the blanks below for this upcoming week.

My action steps are _____.

I'm accountable for _____, and their action steps are _____.

My memory verse is _____.

This coming week, I'm praying for: _____.