

John Piper :: How the Glory of Christ Dims our Distractions Summary of Video

1. Focus and Intentional Living: Piper emphasizes intentional, concentrated attention on God and living a purposeful life, contrasting passive focus on distractions like social media.
2. Theology of Affections: Piper discusses the importance of spiritual affections, describing them as Holy Spirit-prompted feelings that deepen one's joy in God. He stresses that delighting in God is not optional but a biblical command.
3. Comparison and Identity: Piper shares personal anecdotes about overcoming insecurities and highlights satisfaction in God's design and approval as key to combating comparison.
4. Risk in the Great Commission: He addresses the need for calculated risk in missions, grounded in God's sovereignty, and encourages participants to prioritize risks that glorify God and serve others.
5. Corporate Worship and Community: Piper underscores the role of corporate worship and being part of a biblically sound church in sustaining faith.
6. Scriptural Engagement: He encourages immersion in the Bible, especially focusing on Jesus' life and Paul's letters, as essential to maintaining faith and joy.
7. Eternal Perspective: Piper discusses the ultimate goal of worshiping God, as illustrated in Revelation 7:9-17, and the mission to bring people from all nations into that eternal worship.

The session concludes with a prayer for focus, strength, and enduring faith.

Small Group Questions

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1. **Intentional Focus:** John Piper contrasts a life of intentional focus on God with being passively distracted by things like social media. In your daily life, what are some ways you can shift from passive distractions to intentional focus on God? How can this affect your purpose and calling at any age?
2. **Theology of Affections:** Piper talks about the role of spiritual affections in deepening our joy in God, describing them as Holy Spirit-prompted feelings. How do you understand the idea of “delighting in God” as a biblical command? What are some ways you can actively cultivate this delight?
3. **Overcoming Comparison:** Piper shares about his struggles with insecurity and the importance of finding satisfaction in God's design and approval. How do you deal with feelings of comparison or insecurity, and how can focusing on God's approval help reshape your identity?
4. **Risk in the Great Commission:** Piper emphasizes the importance of taking calculated risks for the sake of the Great Commission. What does it look like in your life to take risks that are grounded in God's sovereignty? How can you evaluate whether a risk is truly for His glory?
5. **Corporate Worship and Community:** Piper stresses the significance of corporate worship and being part of a sound church community in sustaining our faith. What role does your local church play in your spiritual health? How can we deepen our commitment to and involvement in the body of Christ?
6. **Engagement with Scripture:** Piper advocates for immersion in the Bible, particularly focusing on Jesus' life and Paul's letters. How has consistent scripture reading shaped your faith and joy in God? What are some practical ways you can engage with Scripture on a deeper level?
7. **Eternal Perspective:** Piper shares the vision of worshiping God with all nations, as shown in Revelation 7:9-17. How does keeping an eternal perspective impact the way you approach your daily life and decisions? How can you keep God's global mission in focus?
8. **Endurance in Faith:** The session concludes with a prayer for focus, strength, and enduring faith. When facing challenges, what practices or spiritual disciplines have helped you remain focused on God? How can we support one another in enduring faith as a community?