

## HALFTIME PERSPECTIVE

### First-Half versus Halftime

The following chart, which is not pictured in the video, illustrates some of the differences that often exist between the first half of our lives and halftime.

Typical First-Half Pursuits and Challenges	Typical Halftime Questions and Issues
Obtaining an education	What should I do with what I've learned? Have I done enough – in my family, community, church?
Getting married or building relationships with friends.	Am I able to devote time to the people who are most important to me? To help them become all they can be? To reach out to others?
Building a career and striving to move upward, trying to provide for the family. Having good intentions.	Are these long hours really worth the price? And now that I'm here, is this where I want to be? I want more than success; I want significance. I'm successful, fortunate, and yet frustratingly unfulfilled.
Acquiring material things to help make life's journey more comfortable.	May have lived more than half my life. What am I going to leave behind of lasting value? Do I really need more stuff?
Juggling many priorities – how to be with friends and family yet expend oneself in the adventure of developing a career.	What's <i>really</i> important? Maybe it's time to take a breather and reevaluate things. How would I like my life to be different – if I'm really honest?
Experiencing pain: divorce, addiction, guilt, loneliness, wayward children, job loss, cancer, etc.	How can I use the great learning experiences I've had and wisdom I've gained to make a difference in this world – to draw me closer to people and to God?
Determining what I have to work with – my gifts, abilities, knowledge, experiences.	I know quite a bit about what I have to work with; now it's time to choose strategically how to use what I have.
Choosing challenges and new horizons that fit the game plan.	Now I can build on the past to create new challenges, new horizons that reflect my new goals and to discover what it means to be open to what God wants me to do.
Marching ahead, pursuing the goals, playing hard.	I just can't keep playing the game the way I've been playing. But I want the second half of my life to be even better than the first.
Trying to figure out what to believe spiritually. If this leads to becoming a Christian, then developing a belief system.	I want to figure out what to <i>do</i> with what I believe. I want my faith to be lived out through action that is built on my faith and beliefs.
Getting involved in activities and figuring out how life works.	I dare to believe that what I ultimately leave behind will be more important than anything I could have achieved during the first half of my life.

## HALFTIME DRILL

### **What God Views as Significant**

People try to find significance in various ways. We need only to look around us – and in our own lives – to see the consequences of those pursuits. Let’s take a look at what God views as significant.

Look up the following verses and write out what they reveal about God’s perspective on what’s important.

<b>Scripture</b>	<b>What God Views as Significant</b>
Matthew 25:31-40; James 1:27	
Isaiah 57:15; Micah 6:8; Matthew 18:1-4; 23:12	
Leviticus 20:26; Psalm 97:10; Romans 13:12-14; 2 Timothy 2:19,22	
Mark 12:28-31	
2 Timothy 4:7-8; Hebrews 11:6	
Matthew 5:38-47; Luke 6:32-35 Hebrews 13:16	
Psalm 11:7; 33:5; Jeremiah 9:24	

These pages from the Halftime Groupware and Video, Halftime Participant’s Guide pp 22, 23, 78