

Week 4, Day 4:

"And whoever gives one of these little ones even a cup of cold water because he is a disciple, truly, I say to you, he will by no means lose his reward."

Matthew 10:42

"If then you have been raised with Christ, seek the things that are above, where Christ is, seated at the right hand of God. Think about the things of heaven, not the things of earth."

Colossians 3:1-2

The people who change lives are the ones who point us away from the world's short-term perspective to God's long-term perspective. Life on earth is a dot, a brief window of opportunity; life in Heaven (and ultimately on the New Earth) is a line going out from that dot for eternity. If we're smart, we'll live not for the dot, but for the line.

When we view our short today in light of eternity's long tomorrow, even the little choices we make become tremendously important. After death we will never have another chance to impact people in our lives who don't know Jesus, to give a cup of water to the thirsty, to serve our church. No wonder the Paul challenges us to, "Set your minds on things above, not on earthly things," (Colossians 3:2, NIV).

From childhood most of us learn to stifle our thirst for the eternal, replacing it with the pursuit of the temporal. But when we live with eternity in view we'll do things with a transformed perspective. Almost any activity can be an eternal contribution, an investment in God's eternal plan.

Reflect:

1. With an eternal perspective in mind, what steps do you feel God is calling you to take in BTL: The Next Chapter?

2.	What other steps do you feel God is challenging you to take in stewarding your time, talents and treasure with eternity in mind?