

Dear Di ...

I've got \$42.67 saved from baby-sitting. It's taken me quite a while to get that much, but now that I have it, I'm wanting to buy a new pair of boots.

Mom says I don't need new boots. She's suggesting I keep saving it. I don't wanna save anymore. I wanna buy something!

Okay, I'll admit I already have two pairs of boots, but I really want this brand-new pair I saw at the mall. They'd look great with my cargos.

Sigh.



In just one day, Americans ...

- produce more than 800,000 pairs of jeans.
- brush their teeth with more than 500,000 pounds of toothpaste.
- purchase more than 50,000 pairs of running shoes.

We can tell what's important in people's lives by looking at what they spend their money on, how they use their time, and who they hang out with.

It's been said that if you want to know what people's priorities are, go through their garbage. Police can actually learn quite a bit about people by simply digging through their trash. They find canceled checks or bills and immediately know what people spend their money on. They see fast-food bags and can develop a sense of people's schedules: Are they fast-paced, or do they have time to cook and sit down to a full meal? By noticing ticket stubs and other indications of entertainment, police can guess whether the people are social or like to stay at home.

What's important in *your* life? When we study the life of Jesus, it's easy to see what was important to him. He was on a single-minded mission: His goal was to spread the gospel and lead as many people as he could into a personal relationship with his Father.

Jesus knew his time on earth was limited. He knew his public ministry would last only three years. Therefore, he moved, spoke, healed, and lived with a sense of urgency. He calls us to do the same.

Instead of being sidetracked by things that don't have eternal value, strive to focus your energy, your time, and your life on influencing others for God.

What if you only had two more years to live? What would become more important to you?



How would you try to grow closer to your family?

