

life is short.

A Study from Ecclesiastes

Sunday, October 14, 2018 | Wawasee Community Bible Church | Milford, Indiana | Pastor Josh Weiland

PART 1: LIFE IS SHORT...

Ecclesiastes 1:1-11

Ecclesiastes

Solomon tells us that life is **MEANINGLESS**,
v. 2

heBEL:

**meaningless, vanity, futile, pointless, fleeting,
empty, breath, vapor**

*What is your life?
Your life is like the morning fog
—it's here a little while, then it's gone.
— James 4:14*

it's a wearisome **TREADMILL** of futility
v. 3-11

*Nothing **under the sun** is truly new. (v. 9)*

— but not if your **HOPE** is in **JESUS**.
Ecclesiastes 12:13

*"Here now is my final conclusion: Fear God and obey his
commands, for this is everyone's duty."
— Ecclesiastes 12:13 (NLT)*

*Jesus told them, "This is the only work God wants from you:
Believe in the one he has sent."
— John 6:29 (NLT)*

1:10 COMMUNITY GROUP **HOMEWORK**

GETTING STARTED

1. What was the biggest waste of time you've ever participated in? The most meaningless thing you've ever been a part of?
2. What clothing was in style when you were 13? Has it come back in style yet?
3. **Read Ecclesiastes 1:1-11.** Review your message notes. What stood out to you from the message this week? Do you have questions? Disagreements? Discuss it with your group.

DIGGING DEEPER

4. Solomon, the wisest man to ever live, gave us some perspective on life this week. He tells us that everything **under the sun** is *meaningless*... Sum up what he means by this and talk about it with your group. Do you agree? Have you found that to be true? Give some examples.
5. **Read James 4:13-17** as a group. How does what James writes here compare to Solomon's words in the opening to Ecclesiastes? What does James commend?
6. **Read Matthew 6:19-34** and **Mark 8:34-38.** What's the difference between 'under the sun' thinking and a true biblical perspective on life?
7. Take some time to thumb/scroll through **Ecclesiastes** as a group and look for all the times he uses the word "**vanity/meaningless/futile**". How does Solomon use the word in his book?
8. Back to **James 4:13-17.** What is wrong with this type of boasting? Why does James say that such boasting is evil? You might also read and discuss the following passages:

Psalms 44:8, 49:5-12
Romans 5:9-11

Jeremiah 9:23-24
2 Corinthians 1:13.5 - 14

UP CLOSE

9. Life is short. Take some time with your group or on your own to list your priorities. What are the things that take up most of your time? Which are the most valuable? Are you allocating the right amount of time to each one according to its value?

During your prayer time this week, let's all be praying together about the following items.

Use the space at the bottom to record your personal prayer items, or requests from your 1:10 Group.

Neighboring Church

Pray this week for the ministry and people of Milford Christian Church. Thank the Lord for their partnership in ministry as we use their facilities for our Student Ministry on a weekly basis.

Personal Prayer Items

Word Find for Ecclesiastes 1:1-8 (NLT)

Find the words **bolded** below.

1 These are the **words** of the **Teacher, King David's** son, who **ruled in Jerusalem**. 2 **"Everything is meaningless,"** says the **Teacher, "completely meaningless!"** 3 What do **people** get for all their **hard** work under the sun? 4 **Generations come and generations** go, but the **earth never changes**. 5 The sun **rises** and the sun **sets, then hurries around to rise again**. 6 The **wind blows south**, and **then turns north. Around and around** it goes, **blowing** in circles. 7 **Rivers** run into the sea, but the sea is **never full. Then** the water returns **again** to the **rivers** and flows out **again** to the sea. 8 **Everything** is wearisome beyond description. **No matter** how **much** we see, we are **never** satisfied. **No matter** how **much** we hear, we are not content.

W I N D J E R U S A L E M
W A C M T V A D D R C I P
O C G E N E R A T I O N S
R K C A E R O V H V M A S
D I O N V Y U I E E P P C
S N M I E T N D N R L E B
R G E N R H D ' H S E O L
U T A G A I N S U R T P O
L U R L N N M M R J E L W
E R T E D G H A R D L E S
D N H S A Y S R I J Y S B
N S A S M A T T E R ' E C
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