

SERIES OVERVIEW

In the book of Ecclesiastes, Solomon sets out to discover if “life under the sun” is truly worth living. He goes on a journey throughout the book and finds himself originally declaring that everything under the sun is meaningless (Hebrew. Hebel—literally translated, vapor or breath. Used 38 times in this book). Solomon is overwhelmed with the truth that death is coming for every person, and that nothing worked for, earned, or pursued seems to have any lasting value. It’s not until Solomon starts focusing his attention on things “beyond the sun” that he recognizes life’s true meaning and purpose. He ultimately discovers that the whole purpose of man is to enjoy life and all its blessings, to live by faith, and to prepare for eternity by fearing God and keeping his commandments.

- [Watch Overview](#) (Watch as a group)

CONTEXT

Ecclesiastes 6:1-12 highlights the vanity of wealth and the fleeting nature of life. It underscores that even with riches, one may not find satisfaction or the ability to enjoy them, emphasizing the importance of contentment and the inevitability of death for all.

THE BIG IDEA

Success means nothing if you can’t enjoy it. True satisfaction comes from God alone.

SCRIPTURE: Ecclesiastes 6:1-12

There is an evil that I have seen under the sun, and it lies heavy on mankind: 2 a man to whom God gives wealth, possessions, and honor, so that he lacks nothing of all that he desires, yet God does not give him power to enjoy them, but a stranger enjoys them. This is vanity; it is a grievous evil. 3 If a man fathers a hundred children and lives many years, so that the days of his years are many, but his soul is not satisfied with life's good things, and he also has no burial, I say that a stillborn child is better off than he. 4 For it comes in vanity and goes in darkness, and in darkness its name is covered. 5 Moreover, it has not seen the sun or known anything, yet it finds rest rather than he. 6 Even though he should live a thousand years twice over, yet enjoy no good—do not all go to the one place? 7 All the toil of man is for his mouth, yet his appetite is not satisfied. 8 For what advantage has the wise man over the fool? And what does the poor man have who knows how to conduct himself before the living? 9 Better is the sight of the eyes than the wandering of the appetite: this also is vanity and a striving after wind. 10 Whatever has come to be has already been named, and it is known what man is, and that he is not able to dispute with one stronger than he. 11 The more words, the more vanity, and what is the advantage to man? 12 For who knows what is good for man while he lives the few days of his vain[d] life, which he passes like a shadow? For who can tell man what will be after him under the sun?

ICE BREAKER

Share a gift or something you purchased that meant so much to you that you didn’t use it. (Ex. covered couch so it wouldn’t get stained, show wear or even sit on.) Have fun with this.

GROUP DISCUSSION

What is one thing that stood out to you from the sermon and why do you think God wants you to remember this truth?

Read verses 1-2. According to the sermon and your own experiences, why does God sometimes withhold enjoyment for the gifts that He has given us?

Verses 1-2 reveal Tragedy #4 from the *Lie of More*; **People who have success without satisfaction.** Describe this tragedy in your own words and what it looks like in real life.

Read verses 3-6. The person in these verses had everything yet he was not satisfied and when he died no one showed up to mourn. What do you want people to say and remember about you when you are gone?

The point of verses 3-6 is, **We can't love created things rightly, until we love our Creator God rightly.** How does James 1:17 relate to this point? What makes it hard for you to love God above everything?

Read verses 7-9. In verse 7, the Hebrew word for "appetite" is the same word used for "soul" earlier in the passage. How does a man who works and eats but is never satisfied relate to our spiritual satisfaction on a soul level?

Read verses 10-12. The Preacher's point in these verses is, **God has plans for you, His plans include what you have, don't have.** What does the sovereignty of God mean? How does God's sovereignty and your human responsibility work together?

Discussion Continued. What does Ecclesiastes 6:1-12 teach us about God and who He is?

PRAYER (In gender based groups)

*Share praises, answered prayers, and prayer requests.

UPCOMING EVENTS

World Engagement Night, 8/24 [INFO](#)

Men's Discipleship begins 9/2 [INFO](#)

Institute starts Sept. 8 [INFO](#)

Women's Discipleship begins 9/16 [INFO](#)

Scholarships Available!



[**INFO AND REGISTER HERE**](#)

SPACE AVAILABLE

September 19&20

October 24&25

November 7&8