

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 5:1-7 warns us to approach God with reverence and humility, emphasizing the importance of listening over speaking hastily. It advises against making rash vows to God, urging us to fulfill our promises and to fear Him, for many words and dreams can lead to vanity.

THE BIG IDEA

Worship God thoughtfully and watch your mouth. God is holy and takes your words seriously.

SCRIPTURE: Ecclesiastes 5:1-7

1 Guard your steps when you go to the house of God. To draw near to listen is better than to offer the sacrifice of fools, for they do not know that they are doing evil. 2 Be not rash with your mouth, nor let your heart be hasty to utter a word before God, for God is in heaven and you are on earth. Therefore let your words be few. 3 For a dream comes with much business, and a fool's voice with many words.

4 When you vow a vow to God, do not delay paying it, for he has no pleasure in fools. Pay what you vow. 5 It is better that you should not vow than that you should vow and not pay. 6 Let not your mouth lead you into sin, and do not say before the messenger that it was a mistake. Why should God be angry at your voice and destroy the work of your hands? 7 For when dreams increase and words grow many, there is vanity; but God is the one you must fear.

ICE BREAKER

Share your favorite summer memory and why it was your favorite.

ANNOUNCEMENT

If you have married couples in your group, talk about the Marriage Adventure Workshops. Pick one of the workshops as a group and experience it together. Registration and Information link below.

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 Ecclesiastes 5:1-7 as a group.

Why is it essential to approach God with the right motives and not with the "sacrifice of fools"?

According to the sermon, what are some right motives and what are foolish sacrifices that people do today?

We learn in verses 4-7 that fools make empty promises and do not fear God. What empty promises do we make today? How do these 2 characteristics feed off each other?

These verses also tell us how we are to approach God. Discuss the 4 ways we are to approach God and choose one that you struggle with the most.

We are to approach God with...

1. Intentionality
2. Humility
3. Integrity
4. Fear

We learned that integrity means to be an undivided person. What does it mean to be an undivided person in our relationship with God and others?

In approaching God with fear, what is the difference between arrogance and confidence?

What does Ecclesiastes 5:1-7 teach us about God and who He is?

QUOTE FROM SERMON: Discuss this quote from John Ortberg about being intentional in our approach to worshipping God.

"I need to worship because without it I can forget that I have a big God beside me and live in fear. I need to worship because without it I can forget his calling and begin to live in a spirit of self-preoccupation. I need to worship because without it I lose a sense of wonder and gratitude and plod through life with blinders on. I need worship because my natural tendency is toward self-reliance and stubborn independence."

PRAYER (In gender based groups)

*Share praises, answered prayers, and prayer requests.

Scholarships Available!



[INFO AND REGISTER HERE](#)

SPACE AVAILABLE

September 19&20

October 24&25

November 7&8