

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.

- [Watch Overview](#)

CONTEXT

In Ecclesiastes 9:11-10:7, the Teacher observes that life is unpredictable, and success is not always guaranteed to the swift or the wise, but time and chance happen to everyone. Furthermore, the passage highlights the wisdom and folly of leaders and the consequences of their actions on society.

THE BIG IDEA

When life seems out of control, God is still in control. Continue walking in wisdom and trust in him.

ICE BREAKER

One thing we learned in the passage this week is that ***life isn’t always fair and it doesn’t always make sense***. Share about a time when you were growing up that this played out in your life. (can be light hearted or serious)

SCRIPTURE: Ecclesiastes 9:11-10:7

11 Again I saw that under the sun the race is not to the swift, nor the battle to the strong, nor bread to the wise, nor riches to the intelligent, nor favor to those with knowledge, but time and chance happen to them all. 12 For man does not know his time. Like fish that are taken in an evil net, and like birds that are caught in a snare, so the children of man are snared at an evil time, when it suddenly falls upon them. 13 I have also seen this example of wisdom under the sun, and it seemed great to me. 14 There was a little city with few men in it, and a great king came against it and besieged it, building great siegeworks against it. 15 But there was found in it a poor, wise man, and he by his wisdom delivered the city. Yet no one remembered that poor man. 16 But I say that wisdom is better than might, though the poor man's wisdom is despised and his words are not heard. 17 The words of the wise heard in quiet are better than the shouting of a ruler among fools. 18 Wisdom is better than weapons of war, but one sinner destroys much good. 10:1 Dead flies make the perfumer's ointment give off a stench; so a little folly outweighs wisdom and honor. 2 A wise man's heart inclines him to the right, but a fool's heart to the left. 3 Even when the fool walks on the road, he lacks sense, and he says to everyone that he is a fool. 4 If the anger of the ruler rises against you, do not leave your place, for calmness will lay great offenses to rest. 5 There is an evil that I have seen under the sun, as it were an error proceeding from the ruler: 6 folly is set in many high places, and the rich sit in a low place. 7 I have seen slaves on horses, and princes walking on the ground like slaves.

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 11-12. How does Colossians 1:15-20 bring you hope and peace after realizing that vs 12 tells us we are not in control?

Read verses 13-18. According to the sermon and these verses, what does the parable in these verses teach us about wisdom?

Do you truly believe that Godly wisdom can deliver you from situations like the one in verses 13-18? How do we find wisdom that can deliver us according to James 1:5, Proverbs 12:15 and Proverbs 19:20?

Solomon, the author of the book of Proverbs, gives us 5 proverbs in Eccl. 10:1-5. In the sermon we learned that proverbs are not promises but principles. What does this mean in reference to the Scriptures?

In verse 10:1 we learn that *it only takes a little stupid to ruin a lot of good*. How has this played out in your own life or in someone else's.

Read verse 10:2. What does this proverb mean Biblically (not politically) concerning wisdom and foolishness?

We learn in verse 4 that *wisdom doesn't overreact even when someone in authority goes off on you*. Why is it so hard to not overreact? What are some wise responses in this situation? (both do's and don't do's)

Discussion continued: In response to the sermon we are encouraged and challenged to do 2 things:

1. Trust God's Sovereignty
2. Seek Wisdom.

What makes it difficult for you to do these things and share one step you can take in response to both?

PRAYER (In gender based groups)

*Share praises, answered prayers, and prayer requests. Pray for each other's ONE.

Closing Prayer (come back together as a group)

Lord, in the unpredictability of life, grant us the wisdom to trust in Your sovereignty and to find peace in Your divine timing. Help us to remember that even when life is unfair and uncertain, we can rely on Your steadfast love and guidance. Amen.

Register Now!



[INFO AND REGISTER HERE](#)

Spots are going fast!



WEEKLY STUDY GUIDE