

Message Based Discussion

Ecclesiastes

What did you like about this message?
What did you find hard to accept or understand?
What does this message teach you about people?
What does this message teach us about God? What does it teach about Jesus?
What will you do now? Based on this message, how will your life change?
How specifically are you going to live out today's lesson?
Who will you tell? With whom will you have a conversation about this message?

The Call to Christian Discipleship

According to Ecclesiastes 3:11, God has set eternity in our hearts. What evidence for this do you see in your heart and in the hearts of others? Did Christ experience the futility and meaninglessness of this world? How? How did He escape it? How do we escape it?

The Call to Missional Living

How can you begin an explanation of the gospel with this sentence? "There's a massive canyon between the way things are and the way they ought to be." Why must an explanation of the gospel begin with this sentence or some other sentence that means the same thing? How might a deep understanding of life's futility help us in sharing the gospel with others?

Pray

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Ecclesiastes: The search for meaning

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Reading: Acts 14:8-17

Introduction: "a three hour tour"
Why study Ecclesiastes?
Who wrote Ecclesiastes?
Where does Ecclesiastes fit?

1. Theology of Ecclesiastes—1:2; 1:14; 5:18-6:3; 2:26; 3:12-13

- Meaningless (Vanity!) - "under the sun"
- God's sovereignty
- Human responsibility

2. Christ in Ecclesiastes—1:14; 3:20; 12:13-14; 8:12-13

- Meaning—Beyond the sun!

- Futility & faith in God

- Illusion replaced with truth

3. Our response to Ecclesiastes—3:11

- Are we living apart from God?

- Do we know all truth or just part truth?

- Where is our final investment?