



ECCLESIASTES 1

Pastor John kicked off a new sermon series this past Sunday titled “the life you’ve always wanted...?” In this series we’ll be going through the book of Ecclesiastes, which was written by King Solomon based on his experiences of finding meaning and joy in life. Throughout this series, we’ll be considering a number of big life questions. So we’d encourage you to take this opportunity to dialogue with each other and explore together what life can look like!

VISION: Explain the purpose of lifegroup.

FAMILY TIME:

- Introduction Question: What was something you gave a ton of energy, thought, time, or resources to that ended up being sort of meaningless?
- Share praise reports and prayer requests.

DISCUSSION: ECCLESIASTES 1.1-11

1 The words of the Teacher, son of David, king in Jerusalem: **2** “Meaningless! Meaningless!” says the Teacher. “Utterly meaningless! Everything is meaningless.” **3** What do people gain from all their labors at which they toil under the sun? **4** Generations come and generations go, but the earth remains forever. **5** The sun rises and the sun sets, and hurries back to where it rises. **6** The wind blows to the south and turns to the north; round and round it goes, ever returning on its course. **7** All streams flow into the sea, yet the sea is never full. To the place the streams come from, there they return again. **8** All things are wearisome, more than one can say. The eye never has enough of seeing, nor the ear its fill of hearing. **9** What has been will be again, what has been done will be done again; there is nothing new under the sun. **10** Is there anything of which one can say, “Look! This is something new”? It was here already, long ago; it was here before our time. **11** No one remembers the former generations, and even those yet to come will not be remembered by those who follow them.

Discussion Questions:

- What strikes me from this text and why?
- What is meaningless to the author?
- What are some things people give themselves to that are actually kind of meaningless?
- What are some things people give themselves to that are actually meaningful?
- What are things that I am giving myself to that are meaningless or meaningful?
- What might God want to say to me about the things that I am giving myself to? How can you put this into practice this week?
- Close by praying for each other over what God is speaking to us and over how we're going to put it into practice.

PRACTICAL EQUIPPING:

The question Solomon raises about what gives life meaning is one that all people wonder about. So even as we're diving into what is meaningful for us personally, let's also pay attention to those around us and help them explore what might give their life meaning.

- In under a minute, how might you capture what Solomon says in Ecclesiastes 1 and ask someone what gives their life meaning?
- Then, in under two minutes, how might you share about what you've found doesn't give your life meaning and about what does give your life meaning?
- Who is someone in your life that you can dialogue with about these things?
- Close by praying for each other to have opportunities to engage those around us.