

SHARING

Hymns (What we're praising God for):

Lessons (What God is teaching us):

Requests (What we're asking God to do):

REFLECTION QUESTIONS

Read the passage (Ecclesiastes 8:1-17) and answer the following questions:

1. What stands out most and why?
 2. What does the passage reveal to us about God?
 3. What does the passage reveal to us about ourselves?
 4. What are the immediate application points?
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DEEPER DISCUSSION

1. Why does Solomon say we are supposed to keep the king's command? (v.2) What is "God's oath" to him?
2. In light of verses 1-4, read Romans 13:1-7. How are Christians to respond to the authorities in their lives? Specifically the government? Where do you have the greatest difficulty with that passage?
3. Why is it important for Christians to find contentment in submission to their earthly authorities?
4. Who have you seen who lived in wickedness yet didn't reap the benefits of that wickedness (v.10)? Where in the Scriptures do you find perspective when tempted with discouragement about the lack of "fairness" in our lives? And what does that desire for "fairness" reveal about our own hearts?
5. The ways of God are beyond the reason of the human mind. Why do we have such difficulty with a God who exists beyond our understanding? Where in the Scriptures do you turn for comfort and help when struggling to understand why or how God is working?