



Adult and Teen Life Groups Conferencing Guide

SERMON DATE: 02/04/2018
DISCUSSION DATE: 02/11/2018
TEXT: ECCLESIASTES 3:1 - 22

I. UNDERSTANDING OUR TIMES – IN SEARCH OF ULTIMATE GAIN – PART 3

A. Understanding the Season you are in. v.v. 1-8

B. What do we gain by surviving the seasons of life? v. 9

C. How do we navigate the messy seasons of life? v.v. 10-15

1. We are to keep busy doing the next right thing (fully devoted followers). v.v. 10-13

2. We are to live with unwavering trust and humble submission (live by faith not by sight). v.v. 14-15

D. God's judgment gives meaning to the mess. v.v. 16-22.

ASKING GOD FOR WISDOM TO APPLY TO OUR DAILY LIVES



1. **Read Ecclesiastes 3:1-8.** What kind of seasons of life did you experience this week?
2. How much time do we spend planning a day/week, and find ourselves doing the opposite of what we planned?
3. What are we supposed to be learning from these radically opposite experiences that fill our lives?
4. **Read Matthew 6:25-34.** What things make us anxious? What are we incapable of doing, v. 27?
5. Why do we worry about tomorrow? What direction(s) are we given in this text to deal with our worry?
6. Who is in control of our times/seasons? Why is this vitally important to Solomon's point?
7. What kind of experiences do people seek in order to give their lives meaning/purpose? Look at Solomon's list and think of modern examples.
8. **Read James 4:13-17.** What kind of plans were James readers making and why were they wrong?
9. What is James probing question? What should our answer be (i.e. think purpose statement)?
10. **Read Ecclesiastes 3:10-15.** What task has God-given to those who do not know Him? What will their life consist of doing and who will benefit from their labors (see 2:26)?
11. Why do we need to know that God makes "everything beautiful in its time?" What kind of assurance does Solomon want us to have and why is it needed?
12. With eternity in our hearts, what does man seek to understand?
13. What does it look like for us to do good with our lives?
14. What is the gift of God that we are to enjoy?
15. What does God want us to know about His plan and purposes for us?
16. Why does God allow us to experience such seasons of life?
17. What is God going to do with all the hurts we have experienced during the seasons of our life?
18. **Read Ecclesiastes 3:16-22.** What injustice is being highlighted in v. 16 and why does this particularly trouble us?
19. What is God going to do about all the injustices we have witnessed in this world?
20. How is God's coming judgment meant to give believers hope and purpose?
21. When a man dies, what are we incapable of seeing? How should we respond to this reality?
22. What is the source of rejoicing for God's children as we await God's day of judgment?