

GROUP DISCUSSION

Questions for facilitating dynamic discussion

Explore God

Week of January 12, 2019

Additional questions for Week 1: Does Life Have a Purpose?

(Jeff Griffin, Senior Pastor)

Ecclesiastes

Instruction:

Discussion Group leaders should preview the videos and questions provided through exploreGod.com as well as these “additional questions.” With your unique group in mind, leaders should pick and choose which elements meet the needs of their group best.

Guide: <https://my.exploreGod.com/resources/facilitators-guide-7-big-questions>

Video #1: <https://youtu.be/WhHjFnbBrM>

Video #2: <https://youtu.be/GM76f6SiaWw>

Study

“I applied my mind to study... I learned that this, too, is a chasing after the wind. For with much wisdom comes much sorrow; the more knowledge, the more grief.” Ecclesiastes 1:13,17-18 (NIV)

1. According to these verses, why was Solomon disappointed with “Study?”

Pleasure

I said to myself, “I will test you with pleasure to find out what is good.” But that also proved to be meaningless. “Laughter,” I said, “is madness. And what does pleasure accomplish?” I tried cheering myself with wine and embracing folly—my mind still guiding me with wisdom. Ecclesiastes 2:1-3 (NIV)

2. According to these verses, why was Solomon disappointed with “Pleasure?”

Work

I hated life because the work that is done under the sun was grievous to me. All of it is meaningless, a chasing after the wind. I hated all the things I had toiled for because I must leave them to the one who comes after me. And who knows whether that person will be wise or foolish? Ecclesiastes 2:17-19 (NIV)

3. According to these verses, why was Solomon disappointed with “Work?”

Fame & Power

A boy had been born poor and had even gone to prison before becoming king. I watched people follow him and make him their king. Many followed him at first, but later, they did not like him. So fame and power are meaningless, like chasing the wind. Ecclesiastes 4:14-16 (NCV)

4. According to these verses, why was Solomon disappointed with “Fame & Power?”

Wealth

Whoever loves money never has enough; whoever loves wealth is never satisfied with their income. This too is meaningless. Ecclesiastes 5:10 (NIV)

5. According to these verses, why was Solomon disappointed with “Wealth?”

Conclusion

Now all has been heard; here is the conclusion of the matter: Fear God and keep his commandments, for this is the duty (purpose) of all mankind. Ecclesiastes 12:13 (NIV)

6. Why is fearing and obeying God the best purpose in life?