

Message 4 J.C. Thompson January 16, 2022

Fear God

Outline

That's the whole story. Here now is my final conclusion: Fear God and obey His commands, for this is everyone's duty. God will judge us for everything we do, including every secret thing, whether good or bad. Ecclesiastes 12:13-14 (NLT)

A. Introduction

B. Solomon's conclusions:

1. _____your mortality. (Ecclesiastes 9:1-6; 11:7-10; 12:1-7)

2. _____ pleasure in today. (Ecclesiastes 9:7-10; 10:1-20. C/R: Deuteronomy 33:25)

3. God. (Ecclesiastes 12:8-14. C/R: Proverbs 2:1-5; 9:10)

Answers: 1. Face 2. Find 3. Fear

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Discussion Guide

Use this guide by yourself or with friends to pursue a deeper relationship with Jesus. To connect with others, visit <u>brookwoodchurch.org/adults</u>.

Conversation Starter

What's one thing you lost that was important to you?

Begin your study with prayer

Pause for a few minutes to quiet your heart and mind. Then ask God for insight and direction as you study and reflect on this week's lesson.

Bible Study and Group Discussion

Read Ecclesiastes 9:1-12.

- 1. Name the six contrasts listed in <u>verse 2</u>. What point is the writer trying to make?
- 2. What does it mean to you that we're all destined to die? How does this affect the way you think about the people in your life?
- 3. How has hope changed the way you live?
- 4. On a scale of 1 to 10 (1 being very little and 10 being a lot), how would you rate your ability to enjoy life? Explain.

Read Ecclesiastes 11:7-12:7.

- 5. What life lessons stand out to you from vs. <u>11:7-10</u>?
- 6. The word *remember* is used 10 times in these verses. What are we supposed to remember? Why?
- 7. How do the metaphors in <u>12:2-5</u> describe the deterioration brought about in old age?

8. How can you embrace getting older without losing some of the good things about being young?

Read 1 Corinthians 15:51-57.

- 9. What's Paul's wonderful secret?
- 10. What will happen to our mortal bodies?
- 11. What stirs in your heart as you read this passage?
- 12. How does a relationship with Jesus motivate you to live and work enthusiastically for the Lord?

Spiritual Practice

A spiritual practice is training for the soul. If you build these into your everyday life, you're sure to strengthen your relationship with God.

Plan a time this week to meet with friends or family to do something you enjoy. While you're together, stop and thank God for the opportunity to enjoy life together.

Memory Verse

Fear of the LORD is the foundation of wisdom. Knowledge of the Holy One resultsin good judgment.Proverbs 9:10 (NLT)

Daily Reading

- Day 1: <u>Proverbs 2:1-5</u> Day 2: <u>John 3:16-21</u> Day 3: <u>Colossians 3:23-24</u>
- Day 4: <u>1 Corinthians 15:12-23</u> Day 5: <u>Deuteronomy 33:26-29</u>

Prepare for Next Sunday

Next Sunday, January 23, we'll begin studying the life of Joseph with a new series titled *Living with Integrity*. To prepare, read **Genesis 37:1-36**.



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