



MAY 30/31

A TIME
TO THINK
ABOUT
WHAT
REALLY
MATTERS
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KEY SCRIPTURE

Ecclesiastes 1:1-2

These are the words of King David's son who ruled in Jerusalem. "Everything is meaningless, utterly meaningless."

Ecclesiastes 1:4

Generations come and go, but nothing really changes.

Ecclesiastes 1:9

History merely repeats itself. It has all been done before. Nothing under the sun is truly new.

Ecclesiastes 1:11

And in future generations, no one will remember what we are doing now.

Ecclesiastes 1:16-17

Look, I am wiser than any of the kings who ruled in Jerusalem before me. I have greater wisdom and knowledge than any of them. But now I realize that even that was like chasing the wind.

Ecclesiastes 2:1-3

Come now, let's give pleasure a try. Let's look for the good things in life. But I found that this too was meaningless. It's silly to be laughing all the time, I said. What good does it do to seek only pleasure? After much thought, I decided to cheer myself with wine. While seeking wisdom I clutched at foolishness. In this way I hoped to experience the only happiness most people find during their brief life in this world.

Ecclesiastes 2:8, 10-11

I had everything a man could desire. Anything I wanted, I took. I did not restrain myself from any joy. But as I looked at everything I had worked so hard to accomplish, it was all so meaningless. It was like chasing the wind.

Additional Scripture:

Matthew 16:26, 1 John 2:16-17, Ecclesiastes 12:13-14

NOTES

DISCUSSION

GUIDE

The book of Ecclesiastes was written by Solomon, who was known as the wisest and wealthiest man of his day. Although he could get whatever he wanted, whenever he wanted it—he came to the conclusion that many of those pursuits were like chasing the wind. None of those things mattered. They didn't satisfy. The same holds true today. Instead, Solomon challenges us to use our time wisely, to fear God and obey his commands.

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

1. In our American culture, we have big houses and small families, more conveniences and less time, more possessions and less value. Why do you think that is?
2. Read **Ecclesiastes 2:24-26**. In what ways have you gotten distracted in life and started chasing the wind? Why do you think people tend to chase these things instead of pursuing what will fill their souls?
3. Near the end of life, people tend to ask two things: Am I right with my family? Am I right with God? How can you start to invest more into those relationships?
4. Read **Ecclesiastes 12:13-14**. What would it look like for you to fear God and obey his commandments in your life? Is there anything that needs to change in your life to reflect this?

JOIN THE CONVERSATION

Share your biggest temptation to chase the wind and how you plan to stay focused on God using **#ATimeForEverything** on Twitter and Instagram.

COMMIT TO MEMORY

"What do you benefit if you gain the whole world but lose your own soul?"

Matthew 16:26