

HomeGroup Discussion Guide

February 22-28, 2009

Key Idea of the Week:

Jesus told a story about a man who worked hard, got rich and put his feet up to enjoy his wealth, but then died. He called the man a fool and pointed out that ‘a man’s life does not consist in the abundance of his possessions.’ What does this mean? Are we in danger of following in the fool’s footsteps, and if so, what is the better way to live?

Discussion Guide:

Pray for God to soften your hearts and speak to you as you open His Word together.

Read Ecclesiastes 2:1-11.

Discuss

Notice in Ecclesiastes 1:1 the author identifies himself as Solomon, son of David and king in Jerusalem. If you could have one of Solomon’s treasures that he lists in this passage, which would it be?

Everyone answer this question. If you could snap your fingers and instantly inherit three modern material blessings (a house, a car, a trip, a precious item) what would they be? Be creative, be specific and share your list with the group once everyone has identified their three items.

Why did you choose those three items?

Study verse 11 of our passage. In light of the items you chose, how does this make you feel?

What does Solomon mean when he says ‘nothing was gained under the sun?’ Do you agree with him?

If the accumulation of things doesn’t bring true happiness, why do we commit so much of our lives to it?

Now read Ecclesiastes 12:13-14. Do you think this is a fair conclusion to the question ‘What is the whole duty (purpose) of man?’ Why or why not?

If you were to accept Solomon’s wisdom and change the goal of your life from ‘accumulating possessions’ to ‘serving God,’ what might need to change in your everyday life? (This is a big question. Dig deep!)