



ECCLESIASTES CHAPTER 5 (FACILITATOR)

Discussion Starter

- What is one of your best childhood memories and why?
- **Opening Prayer**
 - Ask if someone wants to volunteer before leading the prayer.

Breaking it Down

- All questions should be utilized as appropriate based upon group dynamics to facilitate both understanding and discussion. Don't feel tied to the questions and don't feel like you must get through every question. Follow the Spirit's lead! All questions are a matter of perspective in some way BUT there are specific questions that this is truer of, and these questions have been indicated to be perspective/opinion questions.
- Please use your own style, voice, and approach in preparing for leading your life group. Most importantly, take a few minutes to pray over the time together with you group and pray over each group member by name.

Tell the Story

- **PLEASE MAKE SURE THAT YOU HAVE ONE PERSON WHO STORIES (SUMMARIZES THE CHAPTER) BEFORE THE GROUP READS THE CHAPTER TOGETHER.**

Read the Story (Ecclesiastes 5:1-20)

Read out loud as a group, 3-5 verses per person. Let everyone know they can opt out if they would like.

Ecclesiastes 5:1-7

- In what ways do you prepare your heart and mind to hear from God and experience His presence? Do you think we usually consider even doing these types of things as Christians?
 - These are perspective and opinion questions so please listen as the facilitator.

- Would you say that you seek to involve God in your decisions or seek for your decisions to revolve around God and His word? What are the differences between these two things?
 - These are perspective and opinion questions so please listen as the facilitator.
- Why do you think God cares so deeply about the commitments we have made to Him?
 - God is 100% committed to us in every single way and His faithfulness consistently and constantly is on display. While God does not expect us to be Him, He does expect our devotion to Him and love for Him to be shown in our commitments to Him.

Ecclesiastes 5:8-20

- How can we as Jesus followers intentionally remember what is most important in both the smaller and bigger pictures of daily life? How do you personally get distracted away from what is most important in both the smaller and bigger pictures of daily life?
 - These are perspective and opinion questions so please listen as the facilitator.
- Notice what Solomon says in verse 13 about the owner keeping his riches to his own hurt. What does this mean and why is this important and applicable to us today?
 - Solomon is talking about the individual that hoards his resources rather than being gracious and generous with the resources that have been given and entrusted to him or her. This is important and applicable for us today because it challenges us to examine how we utilize the resources that have been entrusted to us whether that's money, time, cars, homes, relational capital, etc.
 - If you lived more purposefully with the understanding that none of the tangible and monetary resources that you currently have were going to last forever, would your life and daily decisions look different than the do now? How?
 - These are perspective and opinion questions so please listen as the facilitator.
- How would you say that you celebrate all the resources that God has given you?

- This is a perspective and opinion question so please listen as the facilitator.

Final Application

- What does this passage teach us about God?
- What does this passage teach us about mankind?
- What is a command to obey in this passage?
- What has God revealed in your life that needs changing?
- What truth can be applied to your life about the gospel?

Closing & Prayer Requests

- Have a designated person to capture and share (as appropriate) within the life group.
- What happens in life group, stays in life group.
- Don't forget get to confirm the next meeting date and time.

Also recruit someone to do the story for the following week. (Ecclesiastes chapter 6)

ECCLESIASTES CHAPTER 5 (STUDENT)

Ecclesiastes 5:1-7

- In what ways do you prepare your heart and mind to hear from God and experience His presence? Do you think we usually consider even doing these types of things as Christians?

- Would you say that you seek to involve God in your decisions or seek for your decisions to revolve around God and His word? What are the differences between these two things?

- Why do you think God cares so deeply about the commitments we have made to Him?

Ecclesiastes 5:8-20

- How can we as Jesus followers intentionally remember what is most important in both the smaller and bigger pictures of daily life? How do you personally get distracted away from what is most important in both the smaller and bigger pictures of daily life?

- Notice what Solomon says in verse 13 about the owner keeping his riches to his own hurt. What does this mean and why is this important and applicable to us today?
 - If you lived more purposefully with the understanding that none of the tangible and monetary resources that you currently have were going to last forever, would your life and daily decisions look different than they do now? How?

- How would you say that you celebrate all the resources that God has given you?

Final Application

- What does this passage teach us about God?

- What does this passage teach us about mankind?

- What is a command to obey in this passage?

- What has God revealed in your life that needs changing?

What truth can be applied to your life about the gospel?

