



a reality check on time

Ecclesiastes 11-12.8

This discussion guide includes preparation BEFORE the group and some guidance DURING the group meeting. Preparation before the group will help you, your leader, and your group to engage and respond to the living and active Word of God.

PREPARATION BEFORE THE GROUP MEETS:

The aim of this preparation is to encourage good & prayerful observation of the text of God's word and the joyful experience of discovering its truth.

Pray & read Ecclesiastes 11-12.8

What are the two most striking things in this reading?

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What puzzles you the most in this reading?

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How does this reading make you **feel**?

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What do you **think** in response to this reading?

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What will you **do** in response to this reading?

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WHEN THE GROUP MEETS: Pray for your discussion time

Discuss the things that matter most to you in your stage of life

read Ecclesiastes 11.1-6 – [check to see if anyone had a stand-out or something puzzling from this section]

▸ In what ways do verses 1-3 advocate for generosity?

▸ In what ways do verses 4-6 advocate for diligence?

▸ Considering your stage of life in what ways do you apply this call to generosity and diligence?

read Ecclesiastes 11.7-12.10 [check to see if anyone had a stand-out or something puzzling from this section]

▸ Why should we enjoy **all** the days of life? (v7-8)

▸ Which are the best days of your life? What is wisdom for this stage of life? (v9-10)

▸ What does old age look like? (12.1-8 - Really engage with this description. It is vivid!) What stands out?

Discuss why it might be harder to remember God in old age if you never started in your youth:

▸ Is it too late to remember God, if you are past the days of your youth? (v9-10)

read Hebrews 3.12-14

▸ When is the time to *remember your Creator*?

▸ What is the matter that matters most regardless of life stage? What is the confidence you want to hold firmly till the end?

▸ Who is responsible for making sure you finish strong? How are you doing this? Are you doing this generously and diligently?

PRAYER time! Take time to thank God for the days he has given you. Ask God to help you enjoy all your days, keep focused on Jesus while it is TODAY, and generously and diligently encourage others to not be hardened by sin's deceitfulness.