



Study Guide – Ecclesiastes Session 6

Week Commencing 24th February 2019

Last week we looked at the first major conclusion to the book of Ecclesiastes – Be Bold in Faith, in the face of the reality of life’s uncertainties and risks

Conclusion 2 – Be Joyful in Faith

Please read **Ecclesiastes 11.7-10**

1. What kind of anxieties and troubles are caused to our minds and bodies when we treat youth and vigour as though it were an idol, to be worshipped and cherished? How can you get rid of them?
2. Why do you think the Teacher discusses the call to joyfulness alongside the reality of death, God’s Judgement and Ageing?
3. “*Joy was created to dance with godliness – not sinfulness*”. How does this understanding affect our view of joy, and how we might teach about living joyfully to young people?

Conclusion 3 – Be Urgent in Faith

Please read **Ecclesiastes 12.1-8**

4. How do you relate to this poetic section? And how will you respond to its’ call to urgency in faith?

Conclusion 4 – Be Real in Faith

Please read **Ecclesiastes 12.9-14; 1 Corinthians 2.6-7**

5. What words of wisdom from the book of Ecclesiastes have ‘goaded’ you? And what wise words have now been ‘nailed in place’ in your mind, heart and life?
6. *v14 kills the idea of complacency – because nothing goes unnoticed and unassessed before God. But it also kills the idea of meaninglessness – because everything matters to God. Searching for meaning in life without reference to God is like chasing after the wind, everything is meaningless! When we turn to the Lord in reverence and worship, then obey him in response – it will be life transforming, and we will discover that everything is meaningful. Meaningful, meaningful, everything is meaningful!*

What is your big takeaway from your studies in Ecclesiastes?