

Talk It Over – Living in the Now

Questions are prepared each week and are designed to prompt insights, questions, and the life experience of each listener. If these are used immediately following the sermon, it would be much the same as what was done in Israel at the time of the early church.

Warm Up

Would you describe yourself as a person who is easily content or as a person who is always looking for more? Be honest! Can you give an example from your life that illustrates your answer?

Read

Ecclesiastes 5:10-20

Discuss



1. According to verses 10-12, what does the author see as the challenge of possessing wealth or things? Do you agree with the author's observations?
2. Do you think the author of Ecclesiastes is against possessing wealth or an abundance of things? Why or why not? Is the author arguing against wealth and materialism, or against a particular attitude toward those things?
3. What is the author's advice to the reader in verse 18? Do you think it is good advice? How would you explain what the author is saying in this verse to one of your children?
4. According to the author, "Finding enjoyment in toil" (vv. 18, 19) is the key to eliminating "Brooding over life" (v. 20). Has this been your experience? Explain.
5. The author seems to be challenging the reader to find happiness and contentment in "the now" instead of waiting for some future moment or event. Do you think this is good advice? What, in your opinion, does it mean to live in "the now"?
6. How does this passage challenge you to think about life differently? What part of this ancient wisdom do you find most compelling? What part of this passage speaks most directly to your life?