

Prayer Concerns:**Searching for Meaning Under the Sun**

Ecclesiastes 1:1-18 [Page 1034]

The author of Ecclesiastes:

1. His name [Qoheleth] means _____, _____,
_____, _____.
2. His credentials: Son of David, _____ of Israel,
_____, _____ and _____.
3. His _____ for _____ was _____.

Two key phrases:

1. “Under the sun.”
2. “Meaningless! Meaningless! Everything is meaningless.”

The truth about life under the sun:

1. _____ is really _____
2. _____ really _____
3. _____ is really _____
4. _____ is _____

[Spoiler Alert!] Qoheleth’s conclusions:

1. _____ under the sun. [5:18]
2. _____ in _____ of _____. [12:13-14]

Personal Study/Growth Group Discussion Questions

Getting Started:

1. Have you ever had buyer's remorse? What was the worst case of it you ever had?

Digging Deeper:

Read Ecclesiastes 1:1-18

1. The word for “meaningless” can also mean “breath” or “vapor.” What, then, is meant by the motto, “everything is meaningless”?
2. What does the phrase “under the sun” [3, 9] tell you about the perspective of Qoheleth's thesis? How does this phrase help us place the teaching of Ecclesiastes in context?
3. Ecclesiastes presents a profoundly realistic perspective on our fallen world. How might this help us find happiness and purpose in life?

4. What problem does verse 8 point out?

5. In verse 11, what tone of voice do you hear? What logic do you see? Is verse 11 the logical extension or inevitable conclusion of careful reasoning?

6. Review the spoiler alerts from the end of the message. What are the secrets to life?

Taking it Home:

1. For what have you spent your life laboring? What do you have to show for it?
2. For what would you like to be remembered after you are long gone?