

Composure in a Topsy Turvy World

Ecclesiastes 8:1-17

Taking it Home:

1. What sort of injustices (personal, family, global) are most likely to arouse you to act? How might you act upon these things in a God honoring way?
2. In what ways do you need to trust God in the things of life you do not understand? Take some time to pray, asking for God's help. (Read Romans 11:33-36)

Prayer Concerns:

Godly wisdom and composure [1]

Godly wisdom - Views life from _____.

Composure - _____.

1. Composure under authority [2-5]

Trust in God's _____ of _____.

Obey and _____ your leaders for your own _____.

Ask God when and how to respectfully _____.

2. Composure in things out of our control [6-8]

_____ in the name of the Lord and _____ on our God.

3. Composure in an unfair world [9-17]

_____ the unanswered questions of life and _____ in the mystery of God's plan.

Enjoy God's _____ that come your way.

The Source of Composure [12]

Personal Study/Growth Group Discussion Questions

Getting Started:

1. Without going on a rant, what current issue is most likely to cause you to gripe?

Digging Deeper:

Read Ecclesiastes 8:1-17

1. What do you think of when you hear the word composure? What does it look like to have composure in the midst of life's challenges?

2. In addition to verses 2-5, read Luke 20:25, 1 Peter 2:13-14, Romans 13:1-5. What reasons are given for obeying and honoring government?

3. When is it appropriate to stand up against government? How can we do this in a God honoring way?

4. What injustices are described throughout this passage? What injustices concern you in the world in which we live? How does Ecclesiastes 8 help when we face things out of our control or the things in life that don't make sense?

5. How does your search for answers to life's problems affect your relationship with God? How easy is it for you to trust him when the answers are unattainable? What can be done to develop such trust? (Read Proverbs 3:5-6)

6. Why will it "Go better with God-fearing people, who are reverent before God?"