



Adult and Teen Life Groups Conferencing Guide

SERMON DATE: 01/14/2018
DISCUSSION DATE: 01/21/2018
TEXT: ECCLESIASTES 1:1-11

I. *FACING LIFE IN A FALLEN WORLD SO THAT WE MIGHT KNOW HOW TO LIVE:*

A. Introductory Title, v. 1.

What does the term Qohelet mean?

Author and date of this book:

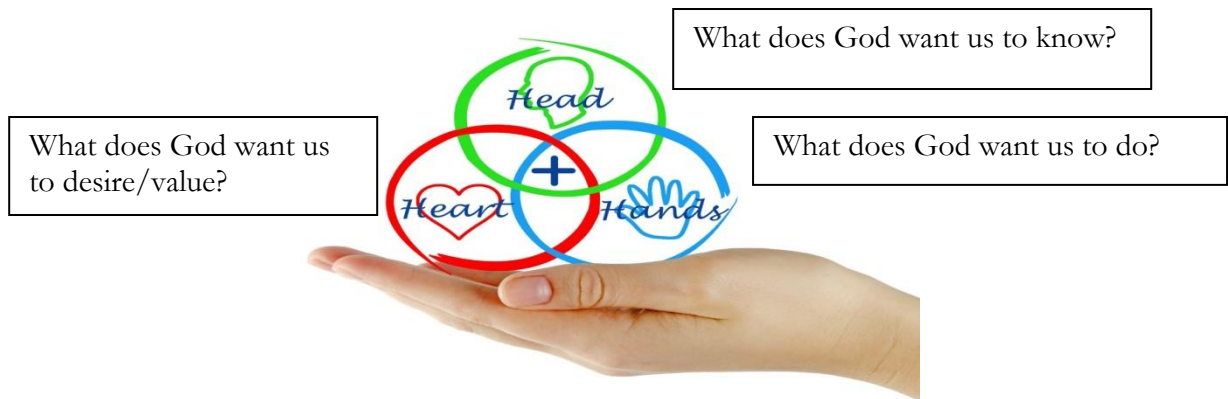
B. Introductory Poem, vv. 2-11.

1. The subject of the book, v. 2.
2. The programmatic question, v. 3.
3. The Poem, vv. 4-11.

C. What do we need to know/believe about our lives in this fallen world?

D. How does this help us learn to live?

ASKING GOD FOR WISDOM TO APPLY HIS WORD TO OUR DAILY LIVES:



How is the American culture reinforcing the message that people are “exceptional”?

How does the church contribute to this message? How do we take an appropriate stand against it?

Where do you see the message “pursue your own passions” being most profoundly promoted?

How is it impacting our society? How is it impacting our churches?

What ideas come to mind when you think “Vanity of Vanities,” says the Preacher, “all is vanity.”?

What ideas come to mind if it is translated: “Most frustratingly puzzling!” says the Teacher. “Everything is frustratingly puzzling!”?

What question does Solomon invite us to consider (v.3)? How is it being answered in our culture? How are we answering this question (not merely with words)?

What happens to each successive generation of humanity in comparison to what happens to the earth? Did they in any lasting/functional way change the world?

What kind of repetitious activities keep our lives busy? Can you identify with Solomon’s declaration that such activities are wearisome and that we are unable to adequately describe them?

What happens to the “accomplishments” of one generation in the future?

How does his truth shape our world-view – specifically helping us to identify what is not worth living for?

Why is it important for us to think right about the nature of life in this fallen world?

What truth must we embrace before we are ready to live?