

## **Ecclesiastes: Community Group Study Guide**

### **Pick and choose questions to answer and discuss**

#### **Opener**

The last verse of chapter 6 raised the question of what is good for us in our earthly lives, which pass so quickly. The counsel in chapter 7 appears as a response to that question.

Is the wisdom mentioned in 7:4 a wisdom that you are sharing in? In what way is your own heart “in the house of mourning”?

#### **Engage with God in a Group**

##### **Read Ecclesiastes 7**

In the opening verses of chapter 7, a number of things are said to be “better” than something else. Identify and explain these comparisons in the following passages Ecclesiastes 7:1-10

What are we taught about God in 7: 13-14?

What are we taught in 7: 13-14 about mankind?

In the current circumstances of your life, would you say that “times are good” or “times are bad” (7: 14)? Either way, what helps you to see that God is in control of your circumstances?

What would you select as the key verse or passage in Ecclesiastes 7—one that best captures or reflects the dynamics of what this chapter is all about?

##### **Read Ecclesiastes 8**

What human limitations are highlighted in 8: 16-17?

What would you select as the key verse or passage in Ecclesiastes 8—one that best captures or reflects the dynamics of what this chapter is all about?

##### **Read Ecclesiastes 9**

What does it mean to be “in God’s hands” (9: 1)? What difference would it make to not be in God’s hands?

How would you express in your own words the main point in 9: 4-6?

“The parable [in 9: 13-16] is not a moral tale to show what people should do: it is a cautionary tale to show what they are like.” Summarize what happens in the brief story that’s told in 9: 13-16. What point does the author of Ecclesiastes make in telling this story?

Chapter 9 ends like chapter 7 began with “better than” statements. Reflect on them

## **DIGGING DEEPER**

[Correcting your perspective of yourself - Tommy Nelson](#)

[COUNSEL: Do the Right Thing and Never Go Wrong](#)

[COUNSEL II: Enjoy Today - Tommy Nelson](#)

### **Bottom Line**

The servant of God knows that he lives in a fallen world, where bad men often escape punishment. Nevertheless, the servant of God looks for the enduring approval of his Lord, for this is the purpose of living.

“Are you spending time with God? Are you walking with God? Are you serving Him? Are you sharing His Word? Are you in the will of God? Are you doing well with the things that are in your control? Then don't worry about the things you can't control.”

Excerpt From  
A Life Well Lived  
Tommy Nelson