

Life in light of eternity - wisdom from Ecclesiastes for today

David Gibson: Seminar 4

HOW TO USE THIS RESOURCE

This seminar is the last in a series of four. You can watch the seminars on your own or with your church, small group, youth group or friends. The questions/reflections provided may help you discuss and work through how to apply what you've learnt to your own life.

WATCH THE VIDEO:

[Seminar 4:](#)
tinyurl.com/2p8zdz672

SEMINAR OUTLINE

If all is 'meaningless, meaningless' how then should we live? What does a life well-lived in light of eternity actually look like?

QUESTIONS

1. Why should Christians embrace the simple things in life like meals and relationships? Look at God's plan at creation and for the new creation, as well as Ecclesiastes 9:1-6, 11-12.
2. What is Jesus teaching us by embodying the message of Ecclesiastes and prioritizing eating and drinking?
3. 'Food and drink need to be at the heart of sharing the gospel' (David Gibson). Why is this important? How can you and your church invest in this area?
4. Ecclesiastes 11:8-9 teaches that enjoying life is a divine imperative for which we will be held accountable. Why, as individuals and as a church, do we struggle to embrace joy?
5. According to the Bible, especially the wisdom of Ecclesiastes, 'How can we so live that our old age, when it comes, shall be beautiful and happy?' (James Russell Miller).

REFLECTION/PRAYER

- Using David Gibson's example, personalise Ecclesiastes 9:7-10 for your own stage of life and circumstances. Write down and thank God for all the good gifts he has given you to enjoy.
- Are you acting as if Ecclesiastes 11:8-9 and Deuteronomy 28:47 are 'divine typos'? (Douglas Jones). What would it look like for you to embrace and pursue joy today?
- Discuss with a friend the particular ways that Ecclesiastes has challenged you to live more wisely.
- If you would like to explore the seminar themes further, read: 'Preaching Christ from the Book of Ecclesiastes' by Sidney Greidanus, 'The Gospel Comes with a House Key' by Rosaria Butterfield or 'Destiny' by David Gibson.