

WEEK 11 JUNE 29 - JULY 5





Using the Bible Reading Plan

The mark of a growing disciple is the discipline to self-feed. During this unprecedented time, the Lord is redirecting His people to pause and rediscover Him and His ways afresh. This is the heart behind our Bible Reading Plan - that we, as a church will delight the Father when we are growing in our love for Him and allowing His Spirit to move us in obeying His Word in our lives.

The Bible Reading Plan comprises a daily passage with reflection questions to guide you in meditation. You can also journal what God's Spirit is prompting you to do in applying the Word. We pray that as you carve out unhurried time to encounter God, you will revitalise your spiritual life and encourage others to experience likewise!



In order to fully utilise the features within this Reading Plan, open this document using Adobe Acrobat Reader. (https://acrobat.adobe.com/sea/en/mobile/acrobat-reader.html)



This Week's Focus

This week, we will explore the final chapters of Solomon's end-of-life reflections in the book of Ecclesiastes. His conclusion for mankind is this – Fear God and keep His commandments... (Ecc. 12:13-14). The fear of the Lord is one topic that is hardly talked about in churches today. Many prefer to focus on the love and grace of God. Solomon, however reminds us of a coming reality that we will all stand before God who will judge us at the end of days. May the Lord ignite in you a desire to live for that which is eternal and not temporal!

June 29 MONDAY



"Wisdom is a shelter as money is a shelter, but the advantage of knowledge is this: Wisdom preserves those who have it." – **Ecclesiastes 7:12 (NIV)**

Today's Meditation

Ecclesiastes 7 (Read)

Keflection Questions

"Wisdom is a shelter" that "preserves those who have it" (v.12). Review Ecclesiastes 7 and list down how wisdom is like a shelter that can preserve you in this day and age? Consider Solomon's observations in v15. What should we expect of God with regards to what our life should look like (refer also to <u>Philippians 4:11-13</u>)?

Speak, Lord... Your Servant is Listening

Areas of my life (character, lifestyle and values) the Holy Spirit is prompting me to adjust.

June 30



"No one can comprehend what goes on under the sun. Despite all their efforts to search it out, no one can discover its meaning." – **Ecclesiastes 8:17 (NIV)**

Today's Meditation

Ecclesiastes 8 (Read)

Reflection Questions

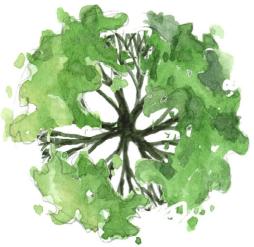
Reflect on v.6 and 11 again. Think about a time when injustice was done to you, but the perpetrator did not get his/her "just deserts". How did you respond? What is the merit of leaving the matter into God's hands and waiting upon Him? Ecclesiastes 8 expounds that man cannot know God's ways and never will. Instead, we should learn to accept what life brings our way (the good and the bad) and to enjoy the simple blessings ("eat and drink and be glad"). What is it in your life that you should learn to appreciate more?

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July 1 WEDNESDAY

"All share a common destiny—the righteous and the wicked, the good and the bad, the clean and the unclean... As it is with the good, so with the sinful..." – **Ecclesiastes 9:2 (NIV)**



Today's Meditation

Ecclesiastes 9:1-10 (Read)

Keflection Questions

If the same destiny (death) overtakes us all, why then do we strive to live Godly lives? Shouldn't we live our lives the way we want and indulge ourselves in worldly pleasures? What should our perspective be as Christ followers? (Refer also to <u>Hebrews 9:27</u>, <u>Matthew 6:33</u> and <u>Colossians 3:1-6</u>)

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"For man does not know his time..." (v 12) How would you like people to remember you at the end of your life? How can you cultivate these characteristics?

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July 2 THURSDAY

"Dead flies make the perfumer's ointment give off a stench; so a little folly outweighs wisdom and honor." – Ecclesiastes 10:1 (ESV)



Today's Meditation

Ecclesiastes 9:11-10:20 (Read)

Keflection Questions

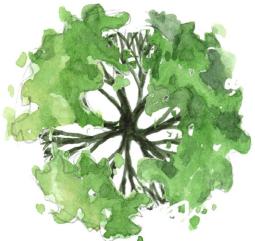
List down the contrasting actions of a wise man with a fool from today's reading.

What does it mean for you to live as the wise – someone who is a good testimony especially to non-believers? (vv 9:18-10:1).

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July 3 **FRIDAY**



"Follow the ways of your heart and whatever your eyes see; but know that for all these things God will bring you into judgment." – **Ecclesiastes 11:9 (NIV)**

Today's Meditation

Ecclesiastes 11 (Read)

Keflection Questions

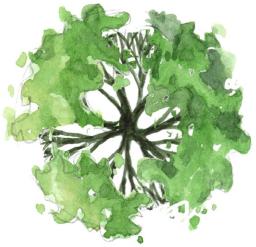
In verse 5, Solomon says that we do not know the works of God. On the other hand, we can know God's ways through His Word. How then should you live your life? God gives us the freedom to do what we want (free will), but whatever we choose to do, it will all come under His judgment. How then do we align with God such that our heart posture and what we do is right in His sight?

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July 4 **SATURDAY**

"The conclusion, when all has been heard, is: Fear God and keep His commandments, because this applies to every person. For God will bring every act to judgment, everything which is hidden, whether it is good or evil." – **Ecclesiastes 12:13-14 (NASB)**



Today's Meditation

Ecclesiastes 12 (Read)

Keflection Questions

The conclusion to Ecclesiastes lies in v. 13-14. The foundation of wisdom is loving reverence (fear of the Lord). What does it mean to fear the Lord and keep His commandments?

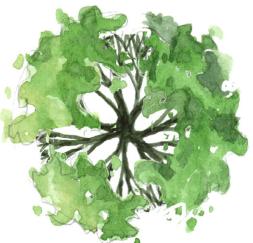
Living a God-fearing life brings fulfillment. How does it play out in your life? How is it obvious to those close to you?

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July 5 SUNDAY

"The fear of the Lord is the beginning of knowledge, but fools despise wisdom and instruction." – **Proverbs 1:7** (NIV)



Today's Meditation

Proverbs 1:1-7 (Read)

Keflection Questions

Yesterday we touched on living a God-fearing life. Today's reading tells us that the *fear of the Lord* produces wisdom. How does the *fear of the Lord* produce wisdom?

What is the difference between worldly knowledge and godly wisdom? Are there areas in your life which you believe are self-sufficient, and you have no need for "wisdom and instruction"?

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Additional Resources

Article: What Does it Mean for the Christian to Fear God? by John Piper, Desiring God (https://rlc.sg/2Za6sct)

> Article: Believers in Judgment by Tim Challies (https://rlc.sg/2NwtEMH)

Article: Is Life Really Worth Living by Chuck Missler, Koinonia House (https://rlc.sg/385WNYr)

Video: What is the Fear of the Lord by Michael Brown, Charisma Magazine (<u>https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=_lgBUw17FgQ</u>)

Video: A Call to Anguish by David Wilkerson (<u>https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=IGMG_PVaJol</u>)

Song: Let the Words of My Mouth by Fernando Ortega (<u>https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=qr8QoQKmXfk</u>)



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