

## Passage Study Guide - Ecclesiastes 5:8-6:9

Series: Ecclesiastes



### Part 1: Getting to the Big Idea

*Questions get to the Big Idea of the passage*

1. What are some reasons that the Preacher gives to show that “He who loves money will not be satisfied with money” (v10-17)?
2. What are the two “grievous evils” that the Preacher observes in 5:13-17 and 6:1-3?
3. How is God involved in 5:18-20 and 6:1-3?
4. Why does the Preacher conclude that it is “good and fitting...to eat and drink and find enjoyment?”

### Part 2: Takeaways & Applications

*Applying the passage to our lives to grow in Christlikeness*

#### Fallen Condition Questions

*Considering our idols and temptations; how we are both sinners and sufferers*

1. Take 1 minute to consider and pen down what we spend the bulk of our time on during our week (e.g. work/family/relationships/home/hobbies).
2. Take time to consider what we penned down above. Take 15 minutes to prayerfully consider the following questions – feel free to spend more time reflecting on one or two of them that stand out to you.
  - a) If I could just have \_\_\_\_\_, I would be happy. What would you fill in the blank with?
  - b) Is there something I am trying to run away from or escape from?
  - c) What am I working so hard to gain?
  - d) What am I hungry or longing for? What am I toiling for?
3. In our passage this week, the Preacher focuses on those who have an insatiable appetite for possessions and honour and who cannot be satisfied. He describes how those who pursued their desires ultimately cannot enjoy them, but experience "vexation, sickness, anger." If these things that we hold onto in life cannot satisfy us, are we able to turn from them and turn to God? Commit these things to God in prayer, asking him to help us lay these things down and fix our eyes on Him.

#### Personal Renewal Questions

*Considering how we can be renewed and transformed in Christlikeness*

4. Read James 1:17, Romans 8:32, and Ecclesiastes 5:18-20. What does it tell us about how God relates to us in life?

5. The Preacher says that God gives us the power to:

a) enjoy our portion

b) accept our lot

c) rejoice in our toil

How does God do that through the person and work of Jesus?

### **Shaping Church Culture Questions**

*Considering how the gospel shapes and permeates the culture within our community*

6. God gives us the church to help us fight discontentment. How can we help one another to do that?

7. Share what we reflected on in the above (FCF) activity and pray for one another.