

**“REMEMBER”****SPEAKER: BRAD WILLIAMS****DATE: NOVEMBER 21, 2021****DISCUSSION QUESTIONS**

These questions are designed to help lead your group through a progression of engagement with the Bible passage(s) and the speaker's message. They can help you understand and apply the teaching.

**BIBLICAL TEXT(S) + MESSAGE SUMMARY:
ECCLESIASTES 12**

In this final week of the Ecclesiastes series, we get to see how the author of this book concludes his message. He implores his readers to remember their creator while they are still young, to take advantage of the time they have been given here on earth, and see it as a gift. They're to do so even though they know that their time will likely include difficult circumstance. His final words instruct us to fear God and keep his commands. Pastor Brad shows us how we can do this in our everyday lives as we seek to heed the advice of this wise teacher.

LEAN IN: *These are icebreakers and warm ups, mostly to get the group talking and start the flow of conversation. Choose one and talk it over for 5-10 minutes.*

1. What is your favorite song? Why do you love it so much?
2. What's one thing that you're most looking forward to about getting older? What's one thing you're dreading?
3. What's the most beautiful place you have ever been?
4. What example or story stood out to you in Sunday's sermon? Why was it significant to you?

LOOK DOWN: *These are questions about the Bible passage(s) and observations about what's been read. Spend about 15-20 minutes on three questions max.*

1. What commandment does the teacher give at the beginning of Ecclesiastes chapter 12?
2. How does the teacher describe the “days of trouble”? What do you think he means or what is he referring to in verses 2-7 of chapter 12?
3. How is the teacher described in verses 9 and 10? How does this impact how you think about the book of Ecclesiastes as a whole?
4. What is said about the words of the wise in verses 11 and 12? What warning is given? How does this relate to the message of the book as a whole?
5. What conclusion is given in the final two verses of this book? What reasoning is given for this conclusion?

LOOK OUT: *These questions help connect the world of the Bible to today. Spend about 15-20 minutes on three questions max.*

1. In his sermon, Pastor Brad gave examples of a few modern songs that have lyrics that are reminiscent of Ecclesiastes. What are other examples of songs, poems, books, movies, etc., that have a similar tone or message?
2. What do you think it looks like in today's world to “remember your Creator”?
3. Think about the older people that you know in your life. What kinds of common regrets and missed opportunities have you heard these people talk about or lament?
4. Pastor Brad talked about the important role that wonder plays as we seek to remember our Creator. In what place or circumstances do people often experience wonder?
5. How would you describe the message of the book of Ecclesiastes to someone who had never read it? What point do you think the author was trying to make and how does it apply to our world today?

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LOOK IN: *These are questions that help you consider how to engage the teaching personally. Spend about 15-20 minutes on three questions max.*

1. How have you resonated with the book of Ecclesiastes? Has the book matched your view of the world or been challenging to you? Why?
2. What might it look like in your own life to remember your Creator?
3. How would you rate yourself on how well you are currently taking advantage of the time that you have been given on this earth? What are you doing well? Where might you be letting time pass you by?
4. When was the last time you experienced wonder? What was happening? What might it look like to incorporate a posture of wonder into your everyday life?
5. What has been the biggest lesson you have learned from the book of Ecclesiastes? How has it challenged or encouraged you?

LIVE IT OUT: *These action steps help apply this week's message to day to day life. Choose one prompts and talk it over for 5-10 minutes.*

1. What's one thing you can do this week to become more aware of your Creator in the midst of your everyday life?
2. Spend some time in prayer before God this week, asking that he would give you feedback on how well you are using the time and the life he has gifted you. Listen to see if there is anything he would like you to change in your next season.
3. What can you do this week to experience that sense of wonder in your life?

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