

If you could relive your youth, what would you change about how you spent those younger years?

Read **Ecclesiastes 11:7-12:8** and discuss the following.

What feelings are evoked by the language of this passage? Is aging something you fear? Do you often think about aging? Why or why not?

In **v.9** God commands us to enjoy what He has given. How does this command strike you? Is it a new idea to you or different than what you might have expected? How so?

What might it look like to rejoice in the life God has given? How can you demonstrate enjoyment in the lot you've been given?

What "*vexation*" needs to be removed from your life? What regularly annoys or frustrates? Is there anything causing pain or bitterness that needs to be released? Discuss the kinds of things that fall into the above categories.

How can we tangibly remember our Creator? What has proven most helpful for you?

Is your present being shaped by your future? How do you know for sure?

Do you think the weakness and loss experienced in old age will likely draw you closer to God or push you away? What spiritual habits might make a difference?

What is this passage's message to young people? What might be hardest for them to understand and accept? What is the message to older people? Explain.

How does this text of Scripture lift our eyes above "*life under the sun*"? In what ways does *Ecclesiastes* point us toward the hope of the gospel of Christ Jesus?

How has this passage of Scripture and discussion most comforted and/or convicted you personally?