

all things



II Corinthians 5:17 & Ecclesiastes 1:9

Living for the Glory of God

Jim Gerlach jim@ovbc.net 5.18.14 9:30 & 10:50 a.m.

People try to find purpose in life through:

- _____

¹ I said to myself, "Come now, I will test you with pleasure to find out what is good." But that also proved to be meaningless.

² "Laughter," I said, "is madness. And what does pleasure accomplish?" ³ I tried cheering myself with wine, and embracing folly . . . ¹⁰ I denied myself nothing my eyes desired; I refused my heart no pleasure . . . Ecclesiastes 2:1-3; 10a

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⁴ I undertook great projects: I built houses for myself and planted vineyards. ⁵ I made gardens and parks and planted all kinds of fruit trees in them. ⁶ I made reservoirs to water groves of flourishing trees. . . . ¹¹ Yet when I surveyed all that my hands had done and what I had toiled to achieve, everything was meaningless, a chasing after the wind; nothing was gained under the sun. Ecclesiastes 2:4-6; 11

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"I also owned more herds and flocks than anyone in Jerusalem before me. ⁸ I amassed silver and gold for myself, and the treasure of kings and provinces . . ." Ecclesiastes 2:7b-8a

¹⁰ Whoever loves money never has enough; whoever loves wealth is never satisfied with their income. This too is meaningless . . .

¹⁵ Everyone comes naked from their mother's womb, and as everyone comes, so they depart. They take nothing from their toil that they can carry in their hands. Ecclesiastes 5:10, 15

Wisdom allows you to see what others miss:

- Searching for meaning and fulfillment "*under the sun*" is like "_____ *the wind*."
- Real purpose in life can only be found in loving _____ and loving _____.

¹ Remember your Creator in the days of your youth, before the days of trouble come and the years approach when you will say, "I find no pleasure in them" . . . ^{12b} Of making many books there is no end, and much study wearies the body.

¹³ Now all has been heard; here is the conclusion of the matter: Fear God and keep his commandments, for this is the duty of all mankind. ¹⁴ For God will bring every deed into judgment, including every hidden thing, whether it is good or evil. Ecclesiastes 12:1, 12b-14

So whether you eat or drink or whatever you do, do it all for the glory of God. I Corinthians 10:31

For we are God's handiwork, created in Christ Jesus to do good works, which God prepared in advance for us to do.

Ephesians 2:10

Next Steps for Week 4 – "A NEW PURPOSE"

- ☐ Verse to Remember: Ephesians 2:10.
- ☐ Spend 5 minutes a day this week meditating 2 verses of Eph. 2:1-10
- ☐ Ask God to show you His will for your life this week.
- ☐ Sign up for a Bible Fellowship group by checking the box on the connection card.