

## Ecclesiastes Chapter 1 Word Search

E	D	I	V	A	D	K	C	G	U	B	U	U	R	V
L	S	P	L	E	A	S	U	R	E	G	N	O	E	A
L	F	P	R	D	G	E	S	S	P	D	F	M	H	N
Q	Y	J	X	Y	G	B	W	H	E	L	Z	A	C	I
Z	B	J	S	S	R	S	E	R	C	H	N	X	A	T
V	O	Y	E	E	O	W	S	O	Y	A	U	T	E	Y
I	M	Y	V	Z	M	T	M	U	L	R	S	H	R	X
T	O	O	K	I	A	E	N	S	I	V	L	J	P	D
J	R	D	O	N	J	J	L	C	O	Y	T	A	T	B
P	V	Z	D	W	C	X	H	A	K	L	N	T	D	V
S	S	I	Q	H	Q	E	G	O	S	M	O	I	K	C
T	N	E	M	O	S	N	E	D	R	U	B	M	A	X
G	I	X	P	M	O	X	Y	T	A	S	R	D	O	R
S	W	P	O	I	S	C	C	W	S	L	G	E	C	N
I	U	Z	Y	T	D	M	E	H	A	K	Q	G	J	E

BURDENOME	DAVID	JERUSALEM
JOY	PLEASURE	PREACHER
PROVERBS	RAIN	RICHES
SOLOMON	SUN	UNDERSTANDING
VANITY		

### Memory Verse

“The words of the Preacher, the son of David, king in  
 Jerusalem. “Vanity of vanities,” says the Preacher;  
 “Vanity of vanities, all is vanity.” - Ecclesiastes 1:1-2

I have completed my Bible studies for the following days:

☐ Lord's Day & Monday

☐ Tuesday

☐ Wednesday

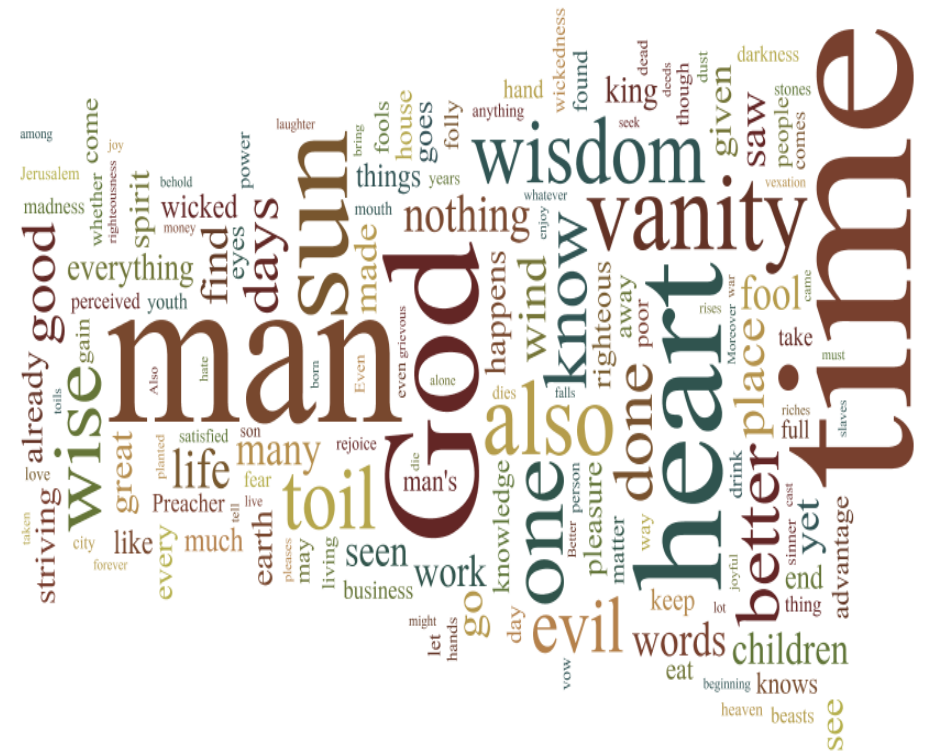
☐ Thursday

☐ Friday & Saturday

Signature

May 5 - 11, 2013

## Ecclesiastes 1:1 - 2:11



## The Lord's Day & Monday

This week we will begin to study the book of Ecclesiastes.

You should read **Ecclesiastes 1:1 - 2:11**.

Ecclesiastes is a book of wise sayings. If you read and ask God to help you understand this book you will be a wise person.

Before we start to look at what is written in Ecclesiastes, do you know who wrote the book? No one knows for sure who the author is, but there are several clues we can use to figure it out.

Clue 1: The author says he is a "son of David."

Clue 2: He says that he was a  
"king in Jerusalem."

Clue 3: He was very rich and very wise.



Did you figure it out? The author is **King Solomon**, the third king of Israel.

Solomon says that he is a preacher and he wants us to know some things. He has experienced almost everything you can in life, but as he sits back and thinks about it he tells us that everything is **vanity**. That means that none of it satisfied him and life left him feeling empty.

You know what that is like. You can't wait to get a birthday gift that you have wanted for a long time. When you get it, you are very excited, but soon enough the excitement wears off.

Even though life can seem pointless, Solomon's dad, **King David**, taught him how to be truly wise and happy. He told Solomon...

*"The fear of the Lord is the beginning of knowledge."* - Proverbs 1:7

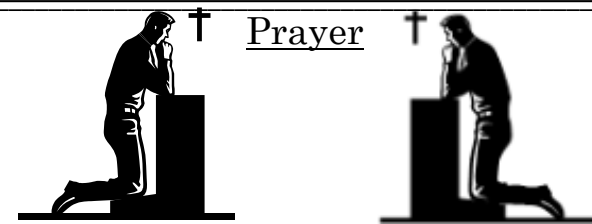
## Friday & Saturday Quiz

1. What causes sadness, pain, and difficulty in our world?

2. Solomon says that our work is vanity. What does God say about our "good" works?

3. How should we think about our past sins?

4. Where can we find lasting pleasure and joy?



Pray about today's lesson. Ask your mom and dad if they will pray with you. Here is an idea of what you could pray:

"God, thank you for teaching me this week. You are a wonderful God. It is a privilege and a joy to know you. Thank you that you came to die for me."

Pray for the Lord's Day service:

1. Pray that everyone would think it is important to come and be able to come.
2. Pray for Sunday School and Pastor Tim's sermon.
3. Pray that we would encourage each other to love the Lord Jesus.

## Friday & Saturday

Today you should read **Ecclesiastes 1:12 - 18**.

Today, we come to the end of chapter 1. Solomon tells us that life is a “burdensome task.” Life is hard and full of heartache. The reason for this is because of man’s sin. Sin is disobedience to God. Because of my sin and your sin the world is under a curse of God.

Solomon says that all of man’s work is vanity. It is like trying to catch the wind with your hands. No matter how hard you try, your efforts will not last forever.

Our sin makes our life full of sadness and pain. We can’t go back in time and fix the “mistakes” we have made, but God is very kind to us. Even though we sin against him and make a mess of our life, he forgives our sin and many times he makes things work out better than they should. Does that mean we should do the wrong thing and let God fix it for us? No way! Learn from your past sins, thank God that he forgives you, and change your ways.

Solomon also points out that no matter how much you know, how smart you are, or how much wisdom you have, you can’t understand everything that happens in life. Many problems are caused by our sin, but that isn’t always the reason things don’t appear to be going well.

God doesn’t always give us the answers, but he does say that we can trust Him. He is good and everything that he does is for the good of the people that truly love him. So don’t demand that God explain himself; just trust Him, and tell him that you love Him.

The only way to truly understand life and find joy is to trust the Lord Jesus and love Him. At God’s right hand are, “*fullness of joy and pleasures forever more.*” **Psalm 16:11**

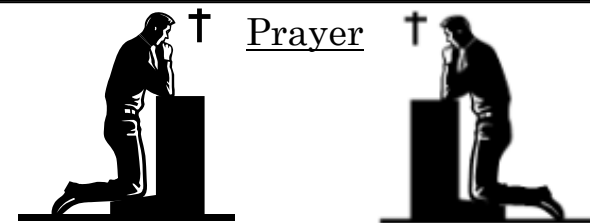
## The Lord’s Day & Monday Quiz

1. Who wrote the book of Ecclesiastes?

2. Who was Solomon’s father?

3. What did Solomon do in Jerusalem?

4. What does vanity mean?



Pray about today’s lesson. Ask your mom and dad if they will pray with you. Here is an idea of what you could pray:

“Lord, please teach me from the Bible this week. Help me in this new study to learn the wisdom that comes from You and to see that life without You, God, is pointless.”

Pray for your family:

1. Dad and Mom
2. Brothers and Sisters
3. Grandpas, Grandmas, Uncles, Aunts, and Cousins

## Tuesday

On Sunday and Monday we started looking at the book of Ecclesiastes.

Today you should read **Ecclesiastes 1:1 - 2.**

Remember, Solomon said life is vanity. This means that life is very short and it can often seem pointless. Solomon says that we live “under the sun.” This means we have a point of view that is very small. We think too much about what is going on right now in front of us and we forget about God who is “above the sun.”

Many people think that the only important things in life are “under the sun.” When we think this, it is easy to get sad, because life has many hard times and it seems we just can’t win. People who God has made wise realize that Jesus, who made and controls the sun, is much more important than the ups and downs of this life.

We should want to know God and if we do know Him we should be very happy. If we know God, our life might still be very difficult and be filled with many sad times, but we will have joy because we know that God loves us and one day we will enjoy being with Him.

Was Solomon saying we should be miserable and not have any fun? When God gives us good things should we say that they are bad? No. Solomon tells us that we should enjoy and be thankful for the good things and good times that the Lord gives us, always remembering our true happiness comes from God.

*“If in this life only we have hope in Christ, we are of all men the most pitiable.” - 1st Corinthians 15:19*

Answers to Tuesday's Quiz: 1. T 2. F 3. T 4. F 5. T

## Thursday Quiz

**What are some things in your life that might be a pointless chase? In other words, what are some things, other than God, that you think are going to make you happy, but in the end will disappoint you. Pray about it and write down your thoughts.**

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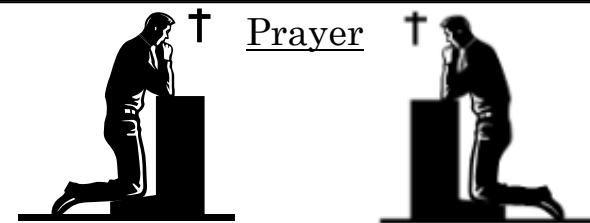
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Pray about today’s lesson. Ask your mom and dad if they will pray with you. Here is an idea of what you could pray:

“Dear Jesus, thank you that you love me, even though I love you so little. Help me to love you more and stop chasing things that don’t matter and that last for only a short time.”

Pray for the leaders of our government. Pray that they will ask for God’s wisdom and make decisions that please Him:

1. Mrs. Virginia Rider—Salamanca Tax Collector
2. Mr. Christopher Jacobs—Erie County Clerk
3. Mr. Jacob Lew—U.S. Secretary of Treasury

## Thursday

Today you should read **Ecclesiastes 1:8 - 11.**

Solomon says today that “there is nothing new under the sun.” He means that things may change shape, size, and color; they can become fancier and more complicated, but things pretty much stay the same. Even with all of our inventions, man is doing the same things he has always been doing.

“Well, my grandpa didn’t have an iPhone or Facebook,” you say. True, but he did have a TV. And his father had a radio. And his father had something else to amuse himself with in an attempt to find satisfaction and joy.

“I know someone whose dad doesn’t play with iPhones or Facebook. He works all the time and when he comes home from work he works on his motorcycle.” Well, that man is looking for satisfaction and joy also just in a different way. He wrongly thinks his work brings joy.

Some things never change. Humans have always tried to make themselves happy, unfortunately they always try to do it the wrong way. They are always looking for something new; a new high. They are like a hamster on a wheel; always running but never getting anywhere. It is very tiring to chase things other than God.

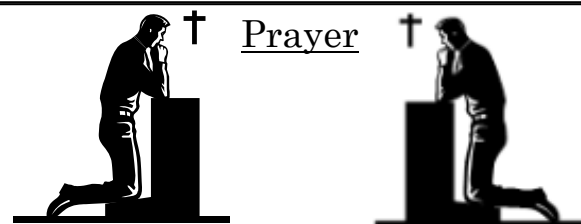
Boys and girls, God is the only one who can satisfy you. He invites you to come to him. Jesus said, “Come unto me ... and I will give you rest.” (Matthew 11:28) God is the only one who can make something new that we have never seen before. If we know Jesus, he will blow our minds one day when we see what his face is like.

*“Behold, I make all things new.” - Revelation 21:5*

## Tuesday Quiz

### True or False

- |   |   |   |
|---|---|---|
| 1. Solomon says that life is vanity.  | T | F |
| 2. Christians will never have problems.                                       | T | F |
| 3. Whether I worship God or not is more important than how much money I have. | T | F |
| 4. Joy and happiness come from getting everything you want.                   | T | F |
| 5. I should enjoy the blessings God gives to me and thank Him for them.       | T | F |



Pray about today’s lesson. Ask your mom and dad if they will pray with you. Here is an idea of what you could pray:

“Lord Jesus, please forgive me when I feel sorry for myself and for wanting stuff more than I want you. Life is tough, but thank you that I can be happy because I know you.”

Pray for your church family:

1. Mr. and Mrs. Orcutt, Kayleigh
2. Mrs. Rockwell, Cory, Aaron
3. Mr. and Mrs. Stefanone, little Rick, Tessa
4. The kids of the church: Anna, Joel, Maria, Cole, Drew, Rick, Tessa

## Wednesday

Today you should read **Ecclesiastes 1:4-7**.

Why does Solomon say that “all is vanity?” Why does he think life is point-less?

Like we said before, Solomon thought about life. He noticed a few things:

1. People are born and then they die, but the world keeps going. The world will not stop when you die. People will cry for a while and then they will keep going to work and to school.
2. It doesn't matter if you had a good day or a bad day; the sun still comes up in the morning and goes down at night. The next day it will do it again and accomplish nothing.
3. The wind blows from one end of the earth to the other. It ends up right where it started. What was the point?
4. The rain falls into the oceans, lakes, and rivers then it rises back into the clouds only to fall back down as rain. The benefits of the rain only last for a short time, before God must send it down again.

All of those things seem pointless, don't they? The good news is that God cares for His children and he is in control of all those things. He uses the sun, the wind, and the rain to care for us. More importantly the things we see in nature remind us how great and how good God is!

*May they fear you while the sun endures, and as long as the moon, throughout all generations!*

*May he be like rain that falls on the mown grass, like showers that water the earth!*

*In his days may the righteous flourish, and peace abound, till the moon be no more!*

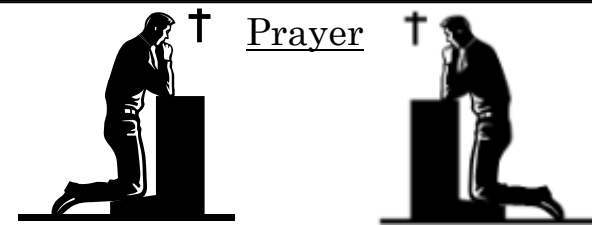
*May he have dominion from sea to sea, and from the River to the ends of the earth!*

*- Psalm 72:5-8*

## Wednesday Quiz

What are the four things that Solomon uses to convince us that life is vanity.

1. \_\_\_\_\_  
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2. \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_
3. \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_
4. \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_



Pray about today's lesson. Ask your mom and dad if they will pray with you. Here is an idea of what you could pray:

“Father, thank you that you control the sun, the wind, and the rain. Thank you that you care for me. Help me to love and praise you for as long as I live.”

Pray for missionaries who give their lives and face danger to tell others about Jesus:

Mr. Rick and Mrs. Hilde Griffith tell teenagers in Belgium about Jesus. Pray for them and for their children.

