

Ecclesiastes Chapter 10:11-20 Word Search

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

FEAST
 IDLENESS
 LAZINESS
 NOBLES
 SERPENT

DECAY
 GRACIOUS
 LABOR
 MULTIPLIES
 RAVING

CHARMED
 FOOLISHNESS
 KING
 MADNESS
 PRINCES

Memory Verse

“The word’s of a wise man’s mouth are gracious, but the lips of a fool shall swallow him up.”

- Ecclesiastes 10:12

I have completed my Bible studies for the following days:

- ☐ Lord's Day & Monday
- ☐ Tuesday
- ☐ Wednesday
- ☐ Thursday
- ☐ Friday & Saturday

Signature

Daily Bible Studies September 29 - October 5, 2013 “The Fool and Foolishness: Part 2” Ecclesiastes 10:11 - 20



The Lord's Day & Monday

Read **Ecclesiastes 10:11—20**.

This week we continue to study the fool and his foolishness. Keep in mind that Solomon is not just speaking about earthly wisdom. He is also, and more importantly, speaking about wisdom that only God's children possess. Solomon is not simply speaking about the kind of wisdom that reminds you to be diligent instead of procrastinating. He is talking about the kind of wisdom that "makes you wise unto salvation" and brings you into fellowship with a holy God.

When he speaks of foolishness, he is not just speaking of the character of a person who is silly and careless. He is speaking about the heart of a person that is a stranger to God, whose mind is dark, and at war with God.

Above all, remember that the word of God is ultimately about the Lord Jesus himself. The words of the Bible point you to Him, so this week ask the Lord to teach you about himself in this passage.

"Behold the fear of the Lord, that is wisdom; and to depart from evil, is understanding." - Job 28:28

Friday & Saturday Activity

Write down three things you learned from this week's study:

1. _____

2. _____

3. _____

Prayer

Pray about today's lesson. Here is an idea of what you could pray:

"Lord Jesus, only you can satisfy my soul. Forgive me for seeking satisfaction elsewhere. That is an insult to you and harmful to me. Please keep me looking to you and please continue to guide the words that come out of my mouth. Thank you for being so gracious and kind toward 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

Finally this week read **Ecclesiastes 10:19-20**.

It is not super clear what is being said in verse 19, but it is possible that Solomon is giving us an idea of what goes on in the head of an irresponsible leader. He is not concerned about serving others; instead, he serves himself by eating, drinking, partying, and spending money on all of his desires. He thinks that money can buy him anything and fix any problem that he has.

That does seem to be the case for a lot of things doesn't it? Yes, money can buy you lots of things, but it cannot purchase peace with God. That cannot be bought with money, but it was purchased for you with the blood of the Lord Jesus, if you believe on His name. Not only has Jesus bought salvation for His people, he also is spiritual food to them, spiritual drink to them, he is their refuge and protection, he is everything to them.

The last verse this week, deals with our attitude towards our authorities. The Lord tells us in this verse not to speak or even think bad things about our authorities. As we have said before, it does not matter if it is your dad or mom, teacher, coach, or boss. It is sinful to curse them even if you keep it to yourself. Solomon also adds that we are not to curse the rich. Do not envy them and hate them. The bottom line is don't think ill of others that seem to have an advantage over you. Solomon gives one, but not the only, reason for this. He says that a bird may overhear what you say and go tell the person. Of course, we know a bird can't do that, but the point is what you say just might get back to them.

The Lord's Day & Monday Activity

Read Luke 24:13-35 and John 5:39-40. What do these passages teach you?

Prayer

Lord Jesus, please teach me this week. Turn me away from my foolishness. Guide me. Without you I am blind. Help me to see you, Jesus, in everything that I read and learn this week.

Pray for your family:

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

Tuesday

Today we will be reading **Ecclesiastes 10:11-13**.

Verse 11: You've probably seen a movie or cartoon where a man plays some type of flute, while a king cobra snake rises out of a basket. It seems to be under a magical spell. Instead of being violent and biting, it is calm. What do you think would happen if you just rushed up to a cobra, waving your arms, and making loud noises? That's right...you are going to be bit and keel over dead. Well, Solomon tells us that a babbler (someone who can't shut up) is just as dangerous as a cobra, both to himself and others. If you are dealing with someone who is always talking, it is wise not to say anything too quickly to them that might "set them off" and make them angry. Choose your words carefully when you talk to such a person. Now, turn the mirror onto yourself. Are you a babbler? Do you need people to hear your opinion all of the time? Your tongue is full of danger. Instead of running your mouth, be careful what you say.

"And the tongue is a fire, a world of iniquity. The tongue is so set among our members that it defiles the whole body, and sets on fire the course of nature; and it is set on fire by hell." - James 3:6

Verse 12: What is the difference between a wise man's words and a fool's words? The wise man uses words that encourage, strengthen, and help others. Jesus is the wisdom of God and his words come to the weak and tired to strengthen them. On the other hand, the fool says things that bring destruction and tear things down. People are hurt by them. He doesn't just hurt peoples' feelings though, he says things that hurt them spiritually and leads them away from God. Ultimately, the fool's unwise words will lead to his own destruction.

Verse 13: The last verse today talks about the direction that the fool's words take. He starts off talking and talking without thinking, without making sense. He makes sure that everyone hears his opinion. Eventually, all of his talk turns into insanity. Remember, what you say flows out of the heart. It would be wise for all of us to "put a cork in it." Stop the stream of foolishness now and listen to God who can fix your heart before the little stream breaks loose into a raging river of foolishness and destruction.

Set a guard, O Lord, over my mouth; keep watch over the door of my lips.
—Psalm 141:3

Thursday Quiz

Jesus is our great king. He epitomizes all of the characteristics of a great leader.

Read **Luke 2:42-49**. What characteristic of a good leader was Jesus exemplifying in verse 49?

How about in **Matthew 20:25-28**?

What good habit does Jesus have in **Mark 1:35**?

Prayer

Pray about today's lesson. Here is an idea of what you could pray:

"Lord Jesus, help me to respect and submit myself to your authority, first of all. Help me also to submit myself to the authorities placed over me here on earth and to pray for them as you command me to. Please prepare me to be a godly leader when I am put in a place of authority one day."

Pray for the leaders of our government. As always, pray that they would fear and honor the Lord Jesus with the decisions they make.

1. Local – Linda J. Rychcik (Salamanca City Comptroller)
2. State – Thomas P. DiNapoli (NYS Comptroller)
3. National – Eugene Louis Dodaro (US Comptroller General)

Thursday

Today, you should read **Ecclesiastes 10:16-18**.

Today's passage deals with rulers and their wise or foolish conduct.

Solomon tells us that a nation, a church, or a family is in a bad situation when its ruler is a child. The Bible tells us that God judges people by giving them bad leaders. He does not necessarily mean a young person when he says child, but we understand that to mean an immature person. Someone who is immature, irresponsible, and lazy is unfit to be a leader whether they are 7 years old or 70. Solomon points out that a person who gets up in the morning ready to get fat on a nice big meal while they watch cartoons in their pajamas until lunch time is a horrible leader. On the other hand, a mature leader is a blessing to people. He does not necessarily need to be an old man, but he does need to be a man who about his business. He eats to prepare his body for hard work and only eats again after he has spent his energy in diligent labor. Solomon calls a good leader, even if he is young, "a son of nobles." By this he meant that the person was well trained, taught, and prepared to lead. If a leader is young in age, he should take special care to seek out the advice of older, wiser people who have more experience than him.

When God gives immature leaders to a people it is a sign of judgment and a call to repentance. (Isaiah 3:1-5)

What is the result when leaders are lazy and immature? Verse 18 tells us that things begin to fall apart. The lazy man's house is falling apart and leaking because he doesn't want to get up and fix it. The irresponsible dad's family lacks love because he does not make the effort to love and serve.

And there is the key point. Pastor Tim sums it up like this: "...immature people enjoy the privileges and ignore the responsibilities, while mature people see the responsibilities as privileges and use them to help others. Being in leadership gives great opportunity to either be proud and lazy or humble and serving."

Tuesday Quiz

1. What does the Bible compare the tongue to in James 3:3-4.
 - A. The ___ ___ ___ in a horse's mouth.
 - B. The ___ ___ ___ ___ of a large ship.
2. Both of those things are S ___ L ___, but they have a very big E ___ E ___ T.
3. James 3:7-8 tell us that every type of creature has been
_____ by man, but no man can tame the
_____.



Prayer

Pray about today's lesson. Ask your mom and dad if they will pray with you as well. Here is an idea of what you could pray: "Heavenly Father, please help me control my tongue. Help me to use it to encourage others and tell them about you. Please keep me from talking too much and give me the patience to listen to you and to others. Most of all, help me to be like you Jesus. Your words always brought glory to God."

Pray for your church family:

1. Ms. Britany Clark and her baby Amelia
2. Mrs. Sandy Carbone
3. Ms. Tammy Cummings

Wednesday

Please read **Ecclesiastes 10:14-15**.

Verse 14: A foolish person talks a lot. You can't tell him anything, and he will always get the last word even if he keeps saying something that you have proven to be untrue already. Also, keep in mind that the more you talk, the more likely it is that you will say something wrong or sinful. Strive to be a listener and thinker rather than a talker. Remember, even in prayer, Jesus taught us not to repeat ourselves and use lots of words like the heathen do or the hypocrites who make long prayers to impress people.

"He who guards his mouth preserves his life, but he who opens wide his lips shall have destruction." - Proverbs 13:3

"Whoever guards his mouth and tongue keeps his soul from troubles."

- Proverbs 21:23

Remember this one? *"Do not be rash with your mouth and let not your heart utter anything hastily before God. For God is in heaven, and you on earth; therefore, let your words be few."* - Ecclesiastes 5:1-2

Pastor Tim gives us good advice by telling us that we need to be very simple and to the point in what we say (without being a jerk).

The Bible says, "Do not boast about tomorrow, for you do not know what a day may bring forth." (Proverbs 27:1) Contrary to this proverb, fools talk about the future like they have a crystal ball and can see what will happen. Even more foolish are the times when we believe that we control our "destinies" rather than God. Instead of acting as though we are in charge we should acknowledge our dependence on God and accept that His desires will come to pass even if they are contrary to ours.

Verse 15: The fool's work is tiring and useless. He foolishly puts his energy into things that don't matter. Instead of laying up treasures in heaven, he lays up treasure on earth. He wastes his energy for things that do not satisfy and runs his mouth instead of listening to the voice of God who offers eternal rest and satisfaction. (Isaiah 55:2-3) Like a pitiable person who can't even find his way to a huge city, fools are too busy talking and wasting their energy to find the "Celestial City."

Wednesday Quiz

Read **James 5:16-18**. What does this passage tell you about Elijah?

Read **1st Kings 18:20-29**. How were the prophets of Baal attempting to get their "god's" attention?

Read **1st Kings 18:30-38**. How much time do you think it took Elijah to pray in verses 36 and 37? Did God hear him?

Prayer

Lord Jesus, please forgive me for all of the times that I have spoken foolishly and sinfully. Once again I ask you to help me speak good things and I also ask for your help in prayer. Help me to pray as you taught us to and not think that I can make you hear me by using lots of words.

Pray for missionaries who tell others about Jesus:

This week's missionary is Ms. Hannah West. She works in freezing cold and dark Alaska. She spreads the good news about the Lord Jesus through a radio program for children. She helps and encourages God's people at a church in a town called Craig, Alaska.

