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Command those that are rich in this present age not to be haughty, nor to trust in uncertain riches but in the living God, who gives us richly all things to enjoy. –1 Timothy 6:17

I have completed my Bible studies for the following days:
Lord's Day & Monday
Tuesday
Wednesday
Thursday
Friday & Saturday
Signature

Daily Bible Studies May 12 - 18, 2013

"I Can't Get
No Satisfaction"
Part 2
Ecclesiastes 2:12 - 26



The Lord's Day & Monday

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

You should read Ecclesiastes 2:12 - 26.

Remember last week Solomon was doing a lot of thinking. It seemed that everywhere he looked life was pointless and disappointing.

In today's reading, he almost seems like he is ready to give up. He is

getting frustrated and exhausted from trying

to find true happiness and a reason to live.

Despite the frustration, he kept trying. As he thought, he might have had some moments where he thought he had it figured out. Maybe he even said, "Aha! I've got it," as a light bulb turned on over his head.



For example, he started thinking about all of the wisdom he had. Surely that must be worth something, so he started to think about wisdom.

Then another idea popped into his head. "Maybe all of the money that I have can bring me happiness."

Well, to find out what he discovered about wisdom and money you will have to wait until later in the week, but for now remember that one day you will die. When that day comes God won't be impressed with your bank account back on earth or with the wisdom that you think you have.

"For what will it profit a man if he gains the whole world, and loses his own soul?"

- Mark 8:36

Friday & Saturday Quiz

True or False

We can enjoy life.
 It's OK to love this world and forget
 F

about God.

Let the lowly brother boast in his exaltation, and the rich in his humiliation, because like a flower of the grass he will pass away. For the sun rises with its scorching heat and withers the grass; its flower falls, and its beauty perishes. So also will the rich man fade away in the midst of his pursuits...Every good gift and every perfect gift is from above, coming down from the Father of lights with whom there is no variation or shadow due to change.—James 1:9-11, 17



Prayer



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, thank you that you are so generous. Thank you for giving me all the things I need plus many other things. Keep me from worshipping them instead of you."

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

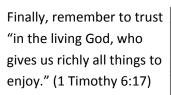
Today you should read Ecclesiastes 2:24 - 26.

Solomon sure has done a lot of thinking and has asked a lot of questions. Now he will offer us six conclusions or answers.

Conclusion 1: God gives us the gift of life and blesses us with many things. Enjoy them without sinning against God at the same time. Don't love and worship the gifts you receive from God, instead love and worship the God who gives them to you.

There is a story of man who gave his sons a gift. It was a brand new TV. The boys were very happy and thanked their father for it, but after a while they loved the TV more than their dad. One day the dad came home from work and his boys just kept watching the TV instead of running to hug their dad and welcome him home. The dad was very disappointed and had to teach his sons a lesson. He taught them to love the giver of gifts more than the gifts themselves.

Keep that little story in mind when you are enjoying the things God has given you. It's OK to enjoy them, but don't let them come between you and God.









The Lord's Day & Monday Quiz

- 1. Think about last week's lesson or look back at it. What is one word you would use to describe what Solomon thinks about life?
- 2. Use only word one word to describe what Solomon is looking for.
- 3. What two things is Solomon going to think about now as he continues to search?

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Prayer



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, thank you for the Bible. Please help me to understand and believe it this week. Thank you that you forgive sins because I need forgiveness."

Pray for your family:

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

Tuesday

Today you should read **Ecclesiastes 2:12 - 14**.

One of the things Solomon thinks about is wisdom. Is it worth anything? He also thinks about people who are not wise. Those people are called fools.

Solomon's frustration grows when he realizes that even though God has blessed him with great wisdom, his children might be fools.

Unfortunately, Solomon's son, Rehoboam, did turn out to be a fool.

When he had to decide between listening to wise old men or young foolish men, he made the wrong choice and listened to the fools.

On the other hand, wisdom is clearly better than folly (foolishness).

A wise man walks in the light. He sees the path he is on clearly. He can see the good place he is trying to get to, and he can also see the dangers to avoid and prepare for.

A fool walks in darkness. He trips and falls. He runs his hand along the wall so he doesn't bump into it, but then he falls down the stairs.

Finally, Solomon has a very serious thought. The wise and the fools will all die one day. Even though wisdom was helpful, it cannot save man from death. This should frighten us and cause us to cry out to God.

Even the wisest people are fools compared to God but don't lose hope! Put your hope in God! Jesus is called the "Wisdom of God." Even though our wisdom cannot save us from death, Jesus can, and he gives us a very precious promise,

"I am the light of the world. He who follows me shall not walk in darkness, but have the light of life." - John 8:12

Thursday Quiz

What are some ways that you can use the money that God gives you
to serve Him instead of yourself?



Prayer



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, help me when I am tempted to love money. Lord, please help me to love you more. Also remind me that all of the money I have is yours. I am to take good care of it."

Pray for the leaders of our government. Pray that they will ask for God's wisdom and make decisions that please Him. This week all of the leaders are involved in collecting money from the people.

- 1. Mrs. Sonya Chadwick (Salamanca)
- 2. 2. Mr. Daniel Martonis (Cattaraugus County)
- 3. 3. Mr. Thomas Barthold (U.S.)

Thursday

Today you should read Ecclesiastes 2:18 - 23.

Remember that Solomon had some thoughts on wealth, or money. Solomon was very rich, but contrary to what most people think, it did not make him happy.

Solomon knew that when he died all of his money would go to his children. Solomon was not sure if his children would spend it wisely or if they would waste it all. He apparently worried about this a lot.

The funny thing is that you would think a rich man has peace and comfort, but Solomon was troubled and losing sleep over his money.

Jesus had quite a bit to say about money. He told a story about a man who was saving up cash and things. He decided to kick back and relax while the money kept pouring into his bank account, but just as he was getting comfy God said to him, "Fool! This night your soul will be required of you." (Luke 12:19) The man died. His time was up and all his stuff was left behind.

Jesus also gives us two important choices to make:

Choice 1: Store up money and stuff on earth, where thieves can steal it, where things break, and things wear out...

OR

Store up treasure in heaven where it can not be stolen or wear out.

Choice 2: Love money. When you love money you will do everything you can to get it. It will control you. You will be its slave.

OR

Love God. Do everything you can to serve him.

Which choices will you make?

Tuesday Quiz

1.	Wisdom is compared to			
	Folly is compared to			
2. What was something that Solomon was concerned about in today's lesson?				
3. What is the one thing that the wise man and the fool have in common?				



Prayer



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 guide and lead me. You have said that your Word is a lamp unto my feet and a light unto my path. Jesus, you are the Wisdom of God. Please teach me to make wise decisions.

Pray for your church family:

- 1. Mr. and Mrs. Ames
- 2. Mr. Tim Austin
- 3. Mrs. Elaine Bartlett
- 4. The kids of the church: Anna, Joel, Maria, Cole, Drew, Rick, Tessa

Wednesday

Today you should read Ecclesiastes 2:15-17.

Solomon is running out of ideas about what can bring him satisfaction and joy and he is getting a bit depressed. Solomon said, "I hated life."

Have you ever thought, "There's no point. Why should I even bother?" These are very sinful thoughts, but they can be used for good by God. When we realize that life is pointless, God often corrects us and tells us that it is only pointless without Him. God wants us to lose hope in ourselves so that we turn to Him and have hope in Him.

A lot of godly men were so depressed and hopeless that they wanted to die.

Job, Moses, Elijah, and Jonah are some examples. All of these men threw themselves a nice pity party with a lot of whining and complaining. It is very exciting to think that God gently corrected them all as they thought about God's wisdom.

Paul's life was so tough that he "despaired of life." But the Lord was very kind and taught him not to trust in himself, but in "God who raises the dead..." (Read 2nd Corinthians 1) If you flip back a page or two in your Bible, you will see Paul encouraging us. He reminds us that the work we do for God is never pointless. (1st Corinthians 15:58)

One more thought. Pastor Tim reminds us of this sometimes. When you walk out to your mailbox to get the mail, each step brings you closer to meeting God. The timer on your life is ticking down and unlike MacGyver you won't escape death at the last second.

The biggest mistake you can make is to live your life trying to get more and more stuff, to learn more and more things. If you live without God, you will die and lose everything you had. You will stand before God with nothing to hide behind. Praise God that if you do trust Him as you live, He will remember you on the day that you meet him.

"Do not be afraid, Abram. I am your shield, your exceedingly great reward."

- Genesis 15:1

Wednesday Quiz

1. Why does God let things get difficult and allow us to lose hope sometimes?

Matching (Read these passages for help: Job 1-2, Numbers 11, 1 Kings 19, Jonah 4)

- 2. Moses
- 3. Job
- 4. _____ Elija
- 5. _____ Jonah

- A. Ran and hid when a queen threatened to kill him.
- B. Mad that God forgives sinful people
- C. Tired of leading God's complaining people
- D. House, family, health—all gone



<u>Prayer</u>



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 teach me. Please forgive me for feeling sorry for myself and not believing that what you do is best. I am sorry that sometimes I think my plans are better than yours. Help me to trust and hope in you."

Pray for missionaries who tell others about Jesus:

Mr. Brent Meyers and his family live in South Africa.

Mr. Meyers helps the pastors there. His website says,

"We have worked with pastors who have no Bible, pastors

who can't read, and pastors who have had little to no education in the Bible or theology. Yet these men love God..."

http://www.biblicalministries.org/content.php?pid=173

