

Don't Wait to Live Notes

Ecclesiastes 11:1-10

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Main Point: Be oriented for action because life is often uncertain and unexplainable.

Do What You Can with What You _____ (vs. 1)

1. The word “cast” means, “to let loose” or “_____ forth.”
2. The word “find” has the idea of “_____.”
3. It’s _____ he is referring to throwing slices of bread into a pond.
4. This was a common proverb of the day which referred to something that looked like a _____ expenditure.
5. Possible interpretations
 - _____ seed on the water – one ancient planting practice was to throw seed on flooded waters in the hopes that when the water receded, the seeds would germinate and produce crops (Isaiah 32:20).
 - Overseas _____ – merchants made money by putting their merchandise on boats “on the water” to be shipped to foreign ports.
 - Joyful _____ – the word “bread” can also refer to what has value to you because it gives sustenance. The idea is we’re to share what we have with others by giving what has been given to us.
6. Whatever the exact interpretation is, the application is the same: be _____ and act, even if there’s some uncertainty because when we sow acts of kindness, we will reap a reward, either here or in Heaven.
7. Verse 2 urges us to _____ our giving.
 - Seven is the number of _____ and eight refers to superabundance.
 - The idea is to give with _____ generosity, uncalculating kindness, and unrestricted liberality (1 Timothy 6:18).

Accept What You Can't _____ (vs. 3).

1. Solomon uses a couple powerful illustrations in verse 3 to help us see how some things just _____.

_____ the Seed of the Gospel and Trust the Holy Spirit (vs. 4).

1. Verse 4 urges us not to wait for everything to be just right before we evangelize.
2. Solomon is saying that over-analysis can lead to _____ (Proverbs 22:13).
3. _____ and a lack of faith can also keep us from sharing the gospel with people.
4. Solomon switches metaphors in verse 5 to help us see God’s ways are _____.
 - God miraculously, mysteriously, and majestically _____ life by bringing together spirit and bones in the womb of a woman (Psalm 139:14).
 - The word “bones” is the word for _____ (Psalm 139:15)

- Just as we don't fully understand how God creates life in the womb, we don't always _____ His work in the world. But that shouldn't keep us from sowing the seed of the gospel as we trust the Holy Spirit to bring new life to someone (John 3:8).
5. We're to share at all times, with everyone we meet, using various methods because we simply don't know who God is going to _____ (vs. 6).
 6. We're to work hard and to work with _____ (Ecclesiastes 9:10).

_____ **Even When Things are Dark (vs. 7-8).**

1. We're to rejoice in our years even if they bring _____ (Ecclesiastes 7:14).
2. The word "darkness" means " _____, confusion, and disorder."

Say Yes to God when You're _____ (vs. 9-10)

1. _____ in your youth.
2. _____ others.
 - "Cheer" has the idea of doing _____.
3. Live in light of future _____ (12:14)
4. Remove _____ from your heart.
 - Turn away from resentment because you don't think things are _____.
 - Stop living as if you're _____ to an easy life.
5. Make _____ choices while you're young.
6. Your life will end _____ than you think (Psalm 39:4)
7. Many of our moist _____ choices take place when we are relatively young – old enough to be making important decisions, but young enough for those decisions to have disastrous consequences.
8. Right now, you are in the _____ of becoming what you will be one day.
9. If you want to ruin your life when you're young, do these seven things:
 - Do whatever you _____.
 - Live outside your means.
 - Feed an _____.
 - Run with fools.
 - Believe this life is all about you.
 - Live for _____ gratification.
 - Avoid accountability.

Action Steps

1. Step out in faith and do something bold and audacious.
2. Remain faithful when dark times come.
3. Take the tithing challenge by giving at least 10% of your time and your treasures.
4. Be intentional and have a gospel conversation with someone this week.
5. If you are not yet saved, today is your day of salvation.