

JANUARY-MARCH 2024

* FINDING THE WILL OF GOD

* ECCLESIASTES 1-6:9

* PALM SUNDAY

* EASTER

KNOWING THE WORD

 Woodlawn
BAPTIST CHURCH

OVERVIEW

Dear Sunday School Teachers,

As you embark on the insightful journey through the book of Ecclesiastes, spanning from chapter 1 to chapter 6:9, you are about to guide your class through the profound reflections of King Solomon. Ecclesiastes, often considered one of the most philosophical books in the Bible, provides a unique perspective on the meaning of life, the pursuit of wisdom, and the inevitability of the passage of time. Solomon, renowned for his wisdom, grapples with the complexities of human existence, inviting you and me to ponder the fleeting nature of earthly pursuits and the ultimate purpose found in reverence for God.

In these chapters, you will lead your class through the timeless wisdom encapsulated in Ecclesiastes, causing the members of your class to contemplate the significance of their actions, the pursuit of knowledge, and the importance of a life lived in alignment with God's purpose. Through engaging discussions and thoughtful reflections, you have the opportunity to inspire a deeper understanding of the biblical teachings within the context of everyday challenges and joys. May your guidance illuminate the profound lessons found in Ecclesiastes, fostering spiritual growth and a renewed appreciation of God's wisdom that transcends the ages.

In addition, this quarter will bring us to Easter where we will spend several weeks reflecting on the Resurrection story and the events following that glorious day!

In Christ,
Pastor Lewis

RESOURCES FOR FURTHER STUDY

Video overview: Ecclesiastes (The Bible Project)



Bartholomew, Craig G. *Ecclesiastes*. Baker Commentary on the Old Testament: Wisdom and Psalms. Grand Rapids: Baker, 2009.

Greidanus, Sidney. *Preaching Christ from Ecclesiastes: Foundations for Expository Sermons*. Grand Rapids: Eerdmans, 2010. **(We will provide this.)**

Kaiser, Walter. *Coping with Change: Ecclesiastes*. NP: Christian Focus, 2013. **(We will provide this.)**

Kidner, Derek. *The Message of Ecclesiastes*. The Bible Speaks Today. Westmont, IL: IVP, 1984.

Provan, Iain. *Ecclesiastes/Song of Songs*. The NIV Application Commentary. Grand Rapids: Zondervan, 2001.

JANUARY 7

COMBINED SS – Pastor Lewis Richerson

Text: Finding the Will of God

JANUARY 14

COMBINED SS – Dr. Eric Mitchell

Ecclesiastes

JANUARY 21

Text: Ecclesiastes 1:1–11

Main Idea: Life is a Vapor.

Suggested Memory Verse:

Helpful Biblical Text:

JANUARY 28

Text: Ecclesiastes 1:12–18

Main Idea: To Search for wisdom is to strive after the wind.

Suggested Memory Verse:

Helpful Biblical Texts:

FEBRUARY 4

Text: Ecclesiastes 2:1–17

Main Idea: Both self-indulgence and living wisely are striving after the wind.

Suggested Memory Verse:

Helpful Biblical Text:

FEBRUARY 11

Text: Ecclesiastes 2:18–26

Main Idea: The one who pleases God has wisdom, knowledge, and joy.

Suggested Memory Verse:

Helpful Biblical Texts:

FEBRUARY 18

Text: Ecclesiastes 3:1–22

Main Idea: Embrace the God-given times and tasks before you.

Suggested Memory Verse:

Helpful Biblical Text:

FEBRUARY 25

Text: Ecclesiastes 4:1–8

Main Idea: Envy and greed lead to oppression and overwork.

MARCH 3

Text: Ecclesiastes 4:9–16

Main Idea: Partners in Labor offer support and increase; wisdom establishes a king while the inability to receive counsel destroys his leadership.

Suggested Memory Verse:

MARCH 10

Text: Ecclesiastes 5:1–7

Main Idea: Let the Fear of God guard your words when you worship and speak to Him.

Suggested Memory Verse:

MARCH 17

Text: Ecclesiastes 5:8–6:9

Main Idea: Do not love money and wealth, but enjoy your life, labor, and goods God has given.

Suggested Memory Verse:

MARCH 24 Palm Sunday

Text: John 12:12–19

Main Idea: Jesus' Triumphal Entry reveals the prophetic nature of the OT Scriptures and shows Jesus' superiority over his enemies and his humility.

MARCH 31 Easter

Text: Philippians 3:7–11

Main Idea: The apex of knowing Christ is to know his resurrection and death. Paul confesses that those human standards (Phil 3:3-6), as lived out by him, he now considers “loss” in view of the surpassing greatness of the great gain of knowing Christ. Paul’s thought here is profoundly Christocentric.

Helpful Biblical Text: Zech 9:9; Psalm 118:25–26

Notes: Use this lesson as a means of encouraging your class to live their lives for the glory of God in light of Christ's resurrection and death. Knowing Christ's death and resurrection are key aspects of knowing and living rightly for Him.

A GLANCE AHEAD

April 7	Luke 24:13–35 Road to Emmaus
April 14	Acts 1:6–11 Ascension Sunday
April 21	Combined SS Adoption & Foster Parent Emphasis
April 28	Ecc. 6:10–7:14
May 5	Ecc. 7:15–29
May 12	Ecc. 8
May 19	Combined SS Holiness from OT
May 26	Ecc. 9:1–12
June 2	Ecc. 9:13–10:20
June 9	Ecc. 11:1–6
June 16	Ecc. 11:7–12:8
June 23	Ecc. 12:9–14
June 30	Fear of Man