

OUTLINE 08/02/26
Chasing the Wind
Ecclesiastes 1-2 (NLT)

As we look at Ecclesiastes, we are looking into the heart and soul of a successful, yet disillusioned, man who is reflecting on why his life feels meaningless. As Solomon begins to look back on his life, he comes to some discouraging conclusions.

1. Life seems meaningless.

³ *What do people get for all their hard work under the sun? ...⁸ Everything is wearisome beyond description. No matter how much we see, we are never satisfied. No matter how much we hear, we are not content.* Ecclesiastes 1:3, 8

*"I observed everything going on under the sun, and really, it is all meaningless—like **chasing the wind**.* Ecclesiastes 1:14

2. Education gives little meaning.

¹⁷ *So I set out to learn everything... But I learned firsthand that pursuing all this is **like chasing the wind**.* Ecclesiastes 1:17

¹⁸ *"The greater my wisdom, the greater my grief. To increase knowledge only increases sorrow.* Ecclesiastes 1:18

¹² *But, my child, let me give you some further advice: Be careful, for writing books is endless, and much study wears you out.* Ecclesiastes 12:12

3. Pleasure gives little meaning.

¹ *I said to myself, "Come on, let's try pleasure. Let's look for the 'good things' in life." But I found that this, too, was meaningless.* Ecclesiastes 2:1

¹⁰ *Anything I wanted, I would take. I denied myself no pleasure...¹¹ But as I looked at everything, I had worked so hard to accomplish, it was all so meaningless—like **chasing the wind**. There was nothing really worthwhile anywhere.* Ecclesiastes 2:10-11

²⁴ *...Then I realized that these pleasures are from the hand of God.* ²⁵ *For who can eat or enjoy anything apart from him?* Ecclesiastes 2:24b-25

JOIN US NEXT WEEK FOR:
CHASING WORK

How to Receive Christ:

"Dear Jesus, thank You for loving me even though I'm a sinner. I ask for your forgiveness. I believe You died for my sin and that You rose from the dead. I trust You as my Savior and follow You as Lord, from this day forward. Amen."

Discussion Questions:

1. Why did Solomon think that life was meaningless?
2. What are downsides to education?
3. How can seeking pleasure replace seeking God?