

GOD'S GIFT OF TIME

Ecclesiastes 3:1-15

OUTLINE

1. You can't control time.
2. Recognize human limits.
3. Steward time to maximize gain.
4. View gain as God's gift.
5. Trust God with your future.

REVIEW

READ Ecclesiastes 3:1-15

OBSERVE

1. How does verse 11 clarify the meaning of verses 1-8?
2. How are God's limits part of his grace to us?
3. How should the truth communicated in Ecclesiastes 3 affect the way people should interact with the world around them (12-13)?
4. How should the truth communicated in Ecclesiastes 3 affect the way people interact with God (14-15)?

INTERPRET

1. How do people without the hope of eternity with God deal with the limits of time?
2. How does the promise of eternity with God through Jesus give meaning to the lives we live today?

ASSESS

1. What are some ways you run up against your human limits? How do you respond when you encounter your limits?
2. Consider how you spent your time over the last week. What governed how you spent your time? How well did you steward your time to glorify God?
3. How does your view of God affect your thoughts and feelings about the future? How should it?
4. When have you experienced a sense of deep meaning and purpose? What made that season special?

NOTES

DIG DEEPER

Weekly Reading Plan

Psalm 139

Daniel 4

Ephesians 5:1-21

Philippians 3:8-4:1

1 Corinthians 15:50-58

MUTUAL MINISTRY

APPLY

1. What would it mean to steward well the season of life in which you find yourself? Set aside time this week to list the resources and limits God has given you in this season, and come up with some practical ideas for what it would look like to steward your time well.
2. What can you do to remind yourself throughout the day that God is great, glorious and good?
3. How can you trust God with your future when you experience anxiety about it? (One potential plan is to memorize a passage of Scripture like Psalm 33:20-22 that speaks to placing our hope in God as we wait for him, and repeating it back to God as a prayer when you feel anxious.)
4. Are there any other steps of obedience God is calling you to from the sermon?

I WILL

WILL

We are a group of people growing together to be more like Jesus by loving one another ... forgiving one another ... serving one another ... submitting to one another ... being devoted to one another ... encouraging one another ... and living on God's mission.