LIFE GROUPS 8—Week of Nov. 1, 2026

Ecclesiastes 5:1-7

1. The theme of "being real" or "authentic" in our corporate worship is stressed in these verses. Is hypocrisy in worship (church) something we face in our spiritual lives? Consider Ananias and Sapphira in Acts 5:1-11. Why do you think God's judgment was so swift at that time?

2. Someone has said, "The thoughts of the unconverted are dominated by money and enjoyment, because that is what they live for. But the spiritual person lives for God, and is most at home when God is in his thoughts." (Olyott, A Life Worth Living and a Lord Worth Loving, p. 37. How does this statement relate to worship?

3. The Hebrew word for "listen" or "hear" in v. 1 has two emphases. It means "to pay attention" so as "to obey." The alternative to this is "empty worship" or "the sacrifice of fools." How would you describe "empty worship"?

4. Empty worship is presented in I Sam. 15:22 and Isaiah 1:11-20. Please read and comment. Do these references help us to understand Ecclesiastes 5:1-7?

5. "God in heaven" and "you are on earth" are phrases found in v. 2. Is Solomon presenting a geography lesson or is there a meaning that relates to the context of the scripture we are studying?

6. How would you apply "speech" to worship? v. 6 What is the warning here?