

October 28, 2018

# It's a Wonderful (Brief) Life

Ecclesiastes



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# Reflections

Forever is composed of nows.

- Emily Dickinson

Yesterday is gone. Tomorrow has not yet come. We have only today. Let us begin.

- Mother Theresa

When you arise in the morning think of what a privilege it is to be alive, to think, to enjoy, to love . . .

- Marcus Aurelius, Meditations

My expectations were reduced to zero when I was 21. Everything since then has been a bonus.

- Stephen W. Hawking

Death twitches my ear;  
'Live,' he says . . .  
'I'm coming.'

- Virgil

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# Sermon

*Remember Your Creator In the Days of Your Youth*


Rankin Wilbourne

*'Cakes' by Wayne Thiebaud, 1963*

*'It's a Wonderful Life' logo by Jesse Wu*

[www.PacificCrossroads.org](http://www.PacificCrossroads.org) 

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# Scripture

Ecclesiastes 11:7 - 12:8

<sup>7</sup> Light is sweet, and it is pleasant for the eyes to see the sun.

<sup>8</sup> So if a person lives many years, let him rejoice in them all; but let him remember that the days of darkness will be many. All that comes is vanity.

<sup>9</sup> Rejoice, O young man, in your youth, and let your heart cheer you in the days of your youth. Walk in the ways of your heart and the sight of your eyes. But know that for all these things God will bring you into judgment.

<sup>10</sup> Remove vexation from your heart, and put away pain from your body, for youth and the dawn of life are vanity.

<sup>12:1</sup> Remember also your Creator in the days of your youth, before the evil days come and the years draw near of which you will say, "I have no pleasure in them"; <sup>2</sup> before the sun and the light and the moon and the stars are darkened and the clouds return after the rain, <sup>3</sup> in the day when the keepers of the house tremble, and the strong men are bent, and the grinders cease because they are few, and those who look through the windows are dimmed, <sup>4</sup> and the doors on the street are shut—when the sound of the grinding is low, and one rises up at the sound of a bird, and all the daughters of song are brought low— <sup>5</sup> they are afraid also of what is high, and terrors are in the way; the almond tree blossoms, the grasshopper drags itself along, and desire fails, because man is going to his eternal home, and the mourners go about the streets— <sup>6</sup> before the silver cord is snapped, or the golden bowl is broken, or the pitcher is shattered at the fountain, or the wheel broken at the cistern, <sup>7</sup> and the dust returns to the earth as it was, and the spirit returns to God who gave it. <sup>8</sup> Vanity of vanities, says the Preacher; all is vanity.

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## Events & News

### **Boxes of Love, Today - November 18**

Our annual Boxes of Love campaign kicks off today! Boxes of Love provide wholesome, filling holiday meals to families in need. Consider picking up a box or two right after today's service. Boxes cost roughly \$50 to fill, require about 30 minutes of your time, and are due back Nov 11.

### **Membership Brunch, November 10**

If you're curious about church membership, or if you are ready to become part of our church family, join us in Sherman Oaks for a few hours of delightful food and rich conversation on what it means to be a member at Pacific Crossroads.

### **Church Plant Vision Meeting - PCC South Bay, November 11**

Church planter Russ Hightower will lead a discussion on the vision for planting in the South Bay (Torrance, Manhattan Beach, etc) and the steps we'll take over the next few months to support the new church. Come find out how you can support this missional gospel initiative.

*View and sign up for all events on our mobile app, on our website, [PacificCrossroads.org/Events](http://PacificCrossroads.org/Events), or speak with someone at the 'New Here?' tent.*

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## Ministry Resources

### **Congregational Care**

Our congregational care team is here to care for you if you are in a difficult place. Email [pastoralcare@pacificcrossroads.org](mailto:pastoralcare@pacificcrossroads.org) or call our office at 310.551.0081.

### **Celebrate Recovery**

Join together weekly with others to celebrate God's healing power in our lives. Visit [PacificCrossroads.org/CelebrateRecovery](http://PacificCrossroads.org/CelebrateRecovery).