

### **Ecclesiastes 5:1-7**

**1** As you enter the house of God, keep your ears open and your mouth shut. It is evil to make mindless offerings to God. **2** Don't make rash promises, and don't be hasty in bringing matters before God. After all, God is in heaven, and you are here on earth. So let your words be few.

**3** Too much activity gives you restless dreams; too many words make you a fool.

**4** When you make a promise to God, don't delay in following through, for God takes no pleasure in fools. Keep all the promises you make to him. **5** It is better to say nothing than to make a promise and not keep it. **6** Don't let your mouth make you sin. And don't defend yourself by telling the Temple messenger that the promise you made was a mistake. That would make God angry, and he might wipe out everything you have achieved.

**7** Talk is cheap, like daydreams and other useless activities. Fear God instead.

### ***Discussion/Journal Questions***

Read Ecclesiastes 5:1-7. How seriously does God take promises and commitments?

Why do you think God takes promises so seriously?

In the sermon, John described commitment as both a promise and a priority. When did you first make a promise to be "all in" with Jesus?

Since that time, how have you grown in your commitment to Jesus?

If you were completely honest, is Jesus the highest priority of your life? If He isn't, what is?

John mentioned dating relationships in his sermon. How would you describe our culture's attitude towards commitment? Where does this attitude come from?

Do you share the culture's view of commitment? Why or why not?

John shared a list of seven ideas to regularly prioritize significant relationships in your life. Which of these would be helpful to incorporate in your own relationships?

1. Undistracted attention
2. Verbalize your commitment.
3. Remind yourself of your own commitment.
4. Set mutual goals together.
5. Read a book together.
6. Speak to a Christian counselor.
7. Make a public declaration of your commitment.

Which of these seven would be helpful to incorporate in your relationship with Jesus? How can your group help you in this?

**Who are you praying for to accept Jesus, and what specifically did you do this week to interact with them?**

**Who are you currently discipling, and what specifically did you do this week to help them know, love, and follow Jesus?**

**Who are you considering for future discipleship relationships, and what specifically did you do this week to interact with them?**