

# Sermon Guide



## **“I Need a New God”**

**February 18, 2024**

### **Ecclesiastes 1:16 – 2:17**

1. Rick read the story of the Fall in Genesis 3– the way the first man and first woman had to hide and cover themselves and the pain and shame they must have experienced. Then he said that we often have no idea the pain and shame in the people around us. Share some ideas of why people don’t talk about their pain and their shame.
2. Wisdom, prosperity, pleasure and work aren’t the problem. The Bible extols all of these things. The problem is when you take such powerful creatures, human beings, and seek to be the god of those things. He then said, “The things in our life are meaningless when we seek them to be the answer to the eternal longing in us.” What might this look like in your own life as you think of idols that might come up?
3. Rick said the following: “The more you grasp for life to be meaningful and pleasurable, the more you will gasp for air. You weren’t made to grasp. You were made to be grasped by God and to have the fullness of the Spirit of God in you to make meaning in this moment.” In this way, we see the tension of Ecclesiastes— that God alone satisfies and that He wants to use us in powerful ways to cultivate beauty in the earth. What beauty might the Spirit want to cultivate through you? Is there a vision, big or small, in your heart?