

# onechurch

## bigIdea

Nobody plans for it to happen, but life can get pretty messy. Trouble with our relationships...harmful habits...feeling far from God...we look back and wonder, "How did I end up here?" Starting down that path is easier than you might think, unless you know what to look for.



Thousands of years ago an extremely wealthy guy named Solomon wrote down his thoughts in his journal called Ecclesiastes. As we take a 'sneak peek' at his diary, we will discover some ways to get life really right and some ways to get it really wrong.

**BIG IDEA:** When we pursue things that don't satisfy, we ignore the One that does satisfy.

### DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

1. Describe the circumstances of your very first car accident...if you've never been in one, congrats!
2. Having a fender bender is nothing like wrecking a life. In his journal called Ecclesiastes, Solomon describes his wreck of a journey, one that began with great promise. *Read 1 Kings 3:6-14*. What did Solomon ask God for? How did God respond?
3. Having wisdom and applying wisdom are two different things. *Read Ecclesiastes 1*. What do you think is the root of Solomon's cynicism?
4. Go down through the list of things Solomon chased in *Ecclesiastes 2:1-10*. What kind of list could you make from your life? What things have you pursued that also ended in futility?
5. The word "meaningless" is used all throughout Ecclesiastes. It comes from the Hebrew word meaning "vapor". In what ways is our life a vapor? *Read Psalm 90:1-6 and James 4:13-17*. What should be our response to the reality that life is a vapor?

### MOVING FORWARD

Read the entire journal of Ecclesiastes in one sitting this week. Go through with a highlighter or pen and mark the passages that cause you to think, "I could have written that." Circle anything that seems "meaningless" in the end and underline important things that last. Then pray, "God give me wisdom for my journey, today."

### CHANGING YOUR MIND

*These are the words of the Teacher, King David's son, who ruled in Jerusalem. "Everything is meaningless," says the Teacher, "completely meaningless!" Ecclesiastes 1:1-2*