

WHAT WOULD JESUS SAY TO



WHAT WOULD JESUS SAY TO, PART 2: JOHNNY DEPP & AMBER HEARD

Johnny Depp has been voted twice the sexiest man alive (*in 2003 and 2009*), has won numerous awards and appeared in many blockbuster movies and was the highest paid actor in 2012 earning \$75 million dollars per film. In 2015, Johnny married Amber Heard but after 15 months of marriage, they filed for divorce. So, what would Jesus say to Johnny and Amber? About relationships, life, and success?

BIG IDEA: When God isn't the center of your life, everything is meaningless.

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

- 1. What are some of your favorite Johnny Depp movies?
- 2. Describe the circumstances of your very first car accident. If you've never been in one, congrats!
- 3. Having a fender bender is nothing like wrecking a life. In his journal called Ecclesiastes, Solomon describes his wreck of a life. *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*.
 - ¹ I said to myself, "Come on, let's try pleasure. Let's look for the 'good things' in life." But I found that this, too, was meaningless. ² So I said, "Laughter is silly. What good does it do to seek pleasure?" ³ After much thought, I decided to cheer myself with wine. And while still seeking wisdom, I clutched at foolishness. In this way, I tried to experience the only happiness most people find during their brief life in this world. ⁴ I also tried to find meaning by building huge homes for myself and by planting beautiful vineyards. ⁵ I made gardens and parks, filling them with all kinds of fruit trees. ⁶ I built reservoirs to collect the water to irrigate my many flourishing groves. ⁷ I bought slaves, both men and women, and others were born into my household. I also owned large herds and flocks, more than any of the kings who had lived in Jerusalem before me. ⁸ I collected great sums of silver and gold, the treasure of many kings and provinces. I hired wonderful singers, both men and women, and had many beautiful concubines. I had everything a man could desire! ⁹ So I became greater than all who had lived in Jerusalem before me, and my wisdom never failed me. ¹⁰ Anything I wanted, I would take. I denied myself no pleasure. I even found great pleasure in hard work, a reward for all my labors.

 Ecclesiastes 2:1-10 (NLT)
- 5. What kind of list could you make from your life? What things have you pursued that also ended in futility?
- 6. The word "meaningless" is used all throughout Ecclesiastes. It comes from the Hebrew word meaning "vapor". *Read Psalm 90:1-6* and *James 4:13-16*.
 - ¹ Lord, through all the generations you have been our home! ² Before the mountains were born, before you gave birth to the earth and the world, from beginning to end, you are God. ³ You turn people back to dust, saying, "Return to dust, you mortals!" ⁴ For you, a thousand years are as a passing day, as brief as a few night hours. ⁵ You sweep people away like dreams that disappear. They are like grass that springs up in the morning. ⁶ In the morning it blooms and flourishes, but by evening it is dry and withered.

 Psalms 90:1-6 (NLT)

13 Look here, you who say, "Today or tomorrow we are going to a certain town and will stay there a year. We will do business there and make a profit." 14 How do you know what your life will be like tomorrow? Your life is like the morning fog—it's here a little while, then it's gone. 15 What you ought to say is, "If the Lord wants us to, we will live and do this or that." 16 Otherwise you are boasting about your own pretentious plans, and all such boasting is evil.

[ames 4:13-16 (NLT)]

- 7. In what ways is our life a vapor? What should be our response to the reality that life is a vapor?
- 8. One of the things Chris said that Jesus might say to Johnny Depp is "Don't find your self-worth in money and popularity, because both riches and fame can be fleeting." Solomon said something similar in Ecclesiastes 5.

¹⁰ Those who love money will never have enough. How meaningless to think that wealth brings true happiness! ¹¹ The more you have, the more people come to help you spend it. So what good is wealth—except perhaps to watch it slip through your fingers! <u>Ecclesiastes 5:10-11 (NLT)</u>

- 9. Have you ever seen the principle that 'those who love money will never have enough of it' at work in your life or the lives of other people? How does always wanting more affect a person's life?
- 10. Another thing Jesus might say about Johnny Depp and Amber Heard's defamation trial is this: "*Be careful to pass rash judgment.*" Solomon wrote this in <u>Proverbs 18:17</u> and <u>Proverbs 26:17</u>...

There are two sides to every story. The first one to speak sounds true until you hear the other side and they set the record straight.

Proverbs 18:17 (TPT)

Interfering in someone else's argument is as foolish as yanking a dog's ears. Proverbs 26:17 (NLT)

11. We as Christians are called to not enter into other people's arguments and take sides (*Proverbs 26:17*), but to love everyone. How does our culture make that difficult today?

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, let me live a life with You at the center, making You a priority in every area of my life."

CHANGING YOUR MIND

There are two sides to every story. The first one to speak sounds true until you hear the other side and they set the record straight. Proverbs 18:17