

## Ecclesiastes 11:9-12:8

### Day 1: Life is a gift

**Scripture:** Ecclesiastes 11:9-10

**Meditation:** Most of us would agree that when we receive a genuine gift, we appreciate it and want to take as good care of it as we can. We need to remember that each day we get up, God is giving us a gift of that day. Yet spiritually speaking, we often fail to live a day at a time. We look past the gift God has currently given us, not promised for another gift and think to the future...missing out on the present. Then we wake up and wonder what happened to the time we had.

**Reflection:** How many times do you find yourself wishing the day away so that tomorrow may come? Have you ever looked back and wished you had spent a little more time with someone you loved or with an opportunity right in front of you? What can you do, to help enjoy God's gifts?

**Prayer:** Ask God to make you aware of your surroundings and enjoy the day you have been given. Then ask Him to bring people into your life that you can continue to show God's gift to.

### Day 2: Make the most of your gift

**Scripture:** Ephesians 5:15-16, 1 Corinthians 7:29-31, 1 Timothy 6:17, Psalms 90:12

**Meditation:** All four of these scriptures help us understand one thing...we need to use what God has given us for Him. If we are not careful, we can think that things in this world will bring us what we need. Then we begin chasing things that will never bring satisfaction. Our scripture in 1 Timothy even warns us of this. That things in this earth can go away overnight. And the Psalm even reminds us that we don't have forever on this earth. So, we would be wise to remember that within in our hearts.

**Reflection:** Do you make the most of each day you have? Or do you find yourself thinking, "well I have another day?" What changes could you make to help with gaining wisdom from your heart as Psalm 90 talks about?

**Prayer:** Ask God to teach you the ways of your heart. Then as He shows you, if there are areas of correction, be willing to correct them. Then ask God to continue to give you wisdom.

### Day 3: Remember your gift

**Scripture:** Ecclesiastes 12:1-8

**Meditation:** I find verses 3 & 4 to be very fascinating. Let me explain and then you can go back and read it again. Many see this as a description of the human body wearing down. Here's how it's believed to break down: guardians of the house (arms), strong men (legs), grind grain (teeth), windows (eyes), doors (ears), sound of mills (voice). What we can take from this is that we need to do more than think about God in the time we have, we need to pay attention to Him and remember His commands...meaning do it!

**Reflection:** If you have ever wished you could have some of your youthfulness back, then remember that you can still do things today. If God gifts you each day, He has something he wants from you. What is it that you believe you can do for God today? Are you willing to do it?

**Prayer:** Thank God for the life you have and seek what more you can do for His kingdom.