

**When Life Doesn't Make Sense**  
**Ecclesiastes 7:15-29**

*I have seen everything in my days of vanity:  
There is a just man who perishes in his righteousness,  
And there is a wicked man who prolongs life in his wickedness.*

**1. Avoid Imbalance**

*Do not be overly righteous,  
Nor be overly wise:  
Why should you destroy yourself?  
Do not be overly wicked,  
Nor be foolish:  
Why should you die before your time? (16-17)*

**2. Apply Wisdom**

*Wisdom strengthens the wise  
More than ten rulers of the city. (19)*

**3. Admit Depravity**

*For there is not a just man on earth who does good  
And does not sin. (20)*

**4. Acknowledge Limitations**

*All this I have proved by wisdom.  
I said, "I will be wise";  
But it was far from me. (23)*

**5. Adjust Expectations**

*Here is what I have found," says the Preacher,  
"Adding one thing to the other to find out the reason,  
Which my soul still seeks but I cannot find:  
One man among a thousand I have found,  
But a woman among all these I have not found. (27-28)*

**6. Appreciate Grace**

*Truly, this only I have found:*

*That God made man upright,  
But they have sought out many schemes.” (29)*