

< LIVING LIFE BACKWARD >

First Congregational Church
505 W. Mulberry St. Kokomo, IN 46901
kokomofirstcongo.org

Ship your grain across the sea;
after many days you may receive a
return.

Invest in seven ventures, yes, in eight;
you do not know what disaster may
come upon the land.

If clouds are full of water, they pour rain on the earth. Whether a tree falls to the south or to the north, in the place where it falls, there it will lie.

Whoever watches the wind will not plant; whoever looks at the clouds will not reap.

As you do not know the path of the wind,
or how the body is formed in a mother's
womb,
so you cannot understand the work of
God, the Maker of all things.

Sow your seed in the morning,
and at evening let your hands not be
idle,
for you do not know which will succeed,
whether this or that,
or whether both will do equally well.

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Now all has been heard; here is the conclusion of the matter: **Fear God and keep his commandments**, for this is the duty of all mankind. For God will bring every deed into judgment, including every hidden thing, whether it is good or evil.

YĀRĒ'

to fear, to revere, to stand in
awe of, to honor, to regard
with deep respect

Now all has been heard; here is the conclusion of the matter: **Fear God and keep his commandments**, for this is the duty of all mankind. For God will bring every deed into judgment, including every hidden thing, whether it is good or evil.

As Solomon grew old, his wives turned his heart after other gods, and his heart was not fully devoted to the Lord his God, as the heart of David his father had been. He followed Ashtoreth the goddess of the Sidonians, and Molek the detestable god of the Ammonites. So Solomon did evil in the eyes of the Lord; he did not follow the Lord completely, as David his father had done.

1 KINGS 11:4-6

**YOUR LIFE MATTERS
BECAUSE IT IS LIVED
BEFORE GOD**

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DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

- 1. IN WHAT AREAS OF YOUR LIFE ARE YOU MOST TEMPTED TO "WATCH THE WIND" INSTEAD OF SOWING THE SEED?**
- 2. WHAT IS ONE AREA OF YOUR LIFE WHERE GOD MAY BE CALLING YOU TO TRUST HIM MORE INSTEAD OF TRYING TO CONTROL THE OUTCOME?**
- 3. LOOKING BACK OVER THE ENTIRE ECCLESIASTES SERIES, WHAT HAS BEEN THE MOST CHALLENGING LESSON FOR YOU? WHAT HAS BEEN THE MOST ENCOURAGING?**
- 4. AFTER STUDYING ECCLESIASTES TOGETHER, HOW WOULD YOU ANSWER SOMEONE WHO SAYS, 'IF LIFE IS VAPOR, THEN WHAT IS THE POINT OF LIFE?'**