



DISCUSSION QUESTIONS FROM September 10/11 SERMON

If you missed the sermon, check out biblechapel.org/sermons.

Scripture from this week's sermon: [Ecclesiastes](#)

ICE BREAKER: Share your summer highlights!

1. Read [1 Kings 3:11-14](#) and [4:29-34](#). Discuss the gifts and abilities that God gave Solomon. Discuss the influence he had on the world in his day.
2. Philosophy (love of wisdom) is the understanding of ourselves and the world around us in a humanistic way. Wisdom Literature (Job, Psalms, Proverbs, Ecclesiastes, and Song of Solomon) seek to help us understand ourselves and the world around us in a theological way. Compare and contrast today's philosophies with the aim of Wisdom Literature in the Bible.
3. The word "vanity" is used 29 times in the book of Ecclesiastes. It has been described as a "multipurpose metaphor." The Hebrews word for vanity (*hebel*) literally means a "vapor," "mist," or "breath." Figuratively, it can describe futility and meaninglessness. What are some of Solomon's pursuits that left him feeling like life was meaningless?
4. Read [Ecclesiastes 12:13-14](#). Discuss how these verses take life from an "under the sun" (temporary) perspective to an "over the sun" (eternal) perspective.
5. For personal reflection - feel free to discuss the following in the group if you are comfortable doing so.

One writer said that there are two kinds of people sitting at every funeral. There are those who say, "This is terrible, tragic, sad, and uncomfortable. I can't wait to get out of here." There are others who see the box in front of the room and know that one day they will be in box. What are your answers to the following three questions:

- How will I be remembered by first my family and then others?

- What is my accounting before God going to be like?
- Where will my soul be when my body is in the box?