



PART 5 - THE WEIGHT THAT BREAKS BALANCE

ECCLESIASTES 9:1-12

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MESSAGE NOTES

BIG IDEA FOR THE WEEK: WE CAN'T LIVE A BALANCED LIFE IF WE'RE STUCK ON BEING IN _____

1. GOD _____ US THAT HE CONTROLS ALL OF LIFE

2. GOD _____ US TO CHOOSE WHO IS GOING TO BE IN CONTROL OF OUR LIFE

3. GOD _____ WHEN WE RELINQUISH CONTROL

SMALL GROUP AND DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

These questions are designed to extend the impact of the Sunday gathering. Use them to go deeper in your personal study time, with your family, and/or with your Life Group

1. Which part of the message was most impactful for you and why? Which part of this passage is easiest for you? The hardest?

2. Share a lighthearted story of a time you thought you were "in control" but clearly weren't (GPS misdirection, parenting moment, home project gone wrong). What's one area of life where you naturally try to control too much?

3. Why do you think humans cling so tightly to the idea of control?

4. Verse 1 reminds us that "the righteous and the wise and their deeds are in God's hands." How does that truth comfort you? How does it unsettle you? What would it look like for you to live more consciously "in God's hands"?

5. Think about Jesus' call to trust Him in Matthew 6:34 ("Do not worry about tomorrow..."). How do Jesus' words connect with Solomon's words in this passage?

6. What is one specific step of surrender you could take this week to practice trusting God in that area?

God, thank You for being in total control. As I live in this world that tells me I am in control of my life, would You please help me to trust completely in You? Place me in the center of Your hand, where I find peace and balance. Help me release what I cannot control and cling to You, who controls all things. In Your Name, Jesus, amen.