

LIVING WITH *The End* IN MIND

**Growing in Wisdom Through Good Times and Bad
January 22, 2023**

How do you feel about getting older?

Is there an older person in your life that you turn to for wisdom? Is there anyone in your life that you fill this role for them?

Read Ecclesiastes 7:11-14

Ted reminded us that in good times it is easy to forget God and in bad times we can be tempted to blame God. Has either been true in your life? What lessons have you learned from making either of these mistakes?

Read Ecclesiastes 7:1-4

Verse 3 says a sad face is good for the heart. Explain what that means. Why is it important (for them and for you) to join others in their mourning?

Read Ecclesiastes 7:5-10

What does Ted mean when he encourages us to “turn up the substance and mute the noise” in our lives? Has there been a time when you really needed to apply this wisdom?

How do you respond when you are frustrated or provoked? Do you have someone in your life from whom you will receive (and even be thankful) for rebuke?

Read Ecclesiastes 7:15-22

Has there been a time in your life where you felt like you did the right thing and God punished you? What were your conversations with God like during that time? Why is that thinking dangerous?

Read Romans 8:28 and Romans 8:38-39

What do these two promises mean to you? How could they help you in times of struggle?

End your time praying that we would each follow the main directives of the book of Ecclesiastes to “fear God and keep His commandments”. Pray that with each day under the sun, we would grow in wisdom and humility as we remember what God has done for us.

Discussion Questions

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