



THIS IS MY BIBLE
Part 3: "Mood Swings"
Ecclesiastes
Life Group Questions

GETTING STARTED

1. Ecclesiastes asks several very direct and probing questions about the meaning of life. How much thought have you given to questions like:

“What is the purpose of life?” and “Why have faith in God when so much in life seems empty and futile?” What conclusions have you come to?

DIGGING DEEPER

Read Ecclesiastes Chapter 1

1. Discuss the recurring theme of "vanity" or "meaninglessness" in Ecclesiastes. What aspects of life does Solomon describe as vain, and how do these observations challenge our cultural values and pursuits?
2. In what ways do you agree with Solomon's assessment in 1:2-3? What is an area in your life that has recently seemed empty or disappointing?
3. In what ways do you sense that people around you live with a sense of despair and hopelessness? How can you minister to them and provide hope?
4. Read 2:1-11. What was Solomon trying to fill his life with to find meaning? What was his conclusion?
5. Ecclesiastes 3:1-8 was made famous by a band named, "The Byrds" in the 1960's. Read these verses and discuss. What was Solomon's point? What was he trying to convey?
6. Read Ecclesiastes 4:1-3. What is Solomon frustrated about? Do you agree with his assessments? Why or why not?
7. In Ecclesiastes 4:7-12, Solomon speaks about the importance of community. Why is it important to be connected with others?

8. Read Ecclesiastes 5:1-7. How can you foster an attitude of reverence toward God? What do you think of when you think of Him? Do you think of God as a friend, father, or unapproachable? Do you think of Him as far away and removed from your life? Or do you know Him as holy, loving, faithful, merciful, and steadfast? A.W. Tozer says, "What comes into our minds when we think about God is the most important thing about us." It changes how we approach Him.
9. After Solomon searches for the meaning of life, he finally comes to a conclusion (12:13). Discuss Solomon's conclusions and how you can apply them to your life.

APPLYING THE MESSAGE

1. What lessons can we learn from the life of Solomon?
2. Solomon's life is an example of what happens when we turn from God and begin living life on our terms. What can you do in your life to ensure that you stay dependent upon God?