

## AROUND THE DINNER TABLE

### 05/15: Ecclesiastes 7:15-29

In this week's passage, Solomon looks at the contrast of wisdom and folly.

What is the difference between wisdom and knowledge? What is an example of each? How do we confuse these two?

Who are the wise people that you go to when you need advice or direction? What have you learned about wisdom from them? What have you learned about the limitations of wisdom from them?

Read aloud James 3:13-18.

How could you use the traits listed at the end of this passage in James to test wisdom that you receive from others?

What does it look like for you to bestow wisdom or advice in a way that promotes peace that yields "a harvest of righteousness?"

## WEEKLY PRAYER FOCUS

Adapted from Rachel Jones' *5 Things to Pray* series.

Heavenly Father, when I'm doubting, help me to **KEEP IT SIMPLE**.

Read 1 John 5:10-11

We might have lots of unanswered questions, but the only thing that ultimately matters is what we think of Jesus: that we believe that eternal life is found in him, the Son of God. Talk to God honestly about what you think of Jesus – tell him now what you believe. Ask him to guide you in a wisdom that comes from above.

## NEXT STEPS

### Interested in Membership or Baptism?

Contact Trent Jones at [tjones@linworthbaptist.org](mailto:tjones@linworthbaptist.org) or the church office.

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LOVE GOD,  
LOVE PEOPLE,  
SHARE CHRIST... *more*

May 15, 2022

## SERMON PASSAGE

### Ecclesiastes 7:15-29 (ESV)

<sup>15</sup> In my vain life I have seen everything. There is a righteous man who perishes in his righteousness, and there is a wicked man who prolongs his life in his evildoing. <sup>16</sup> Be not overly righteous, and do not make yourself too wise. Why should you destroy yourself? <sup>17</sup> Be not overly wicked, neither be a fool. Why should you die before your time? <sup>18</sup> It is good that you should take hold of this, and from that withhold not your hand, for the one who fears God shall come out from both of them.

<sup>19</sup> Wisdom gives strength to the wise man more than ten rulers who are in a city.

<sup>20</sup> Surely there is not a righteous man on earth who does good and never sins.

<sup>21</sup> Do not take to heart all the things that people say, lest you hear your servant cursing you. <sup>22</sup> Your heart knows that many times you yourself have cursed others.

<sup>23</sup> All this I have tested by wisdom. I said, "I will be wise," but it was far from me. <sup>24</sup> That which has been is far off, and deep, very deep; who can find it out?

<sup>25</sup> I turned my heart to know and to search out and to seek wisdom and the scheme of things, and to know the wickedness of folly and the foolishness that is madness. <sup>26</sup> And I find something more bitter than death: the woman whose heart is snares and nets, and whose hands are fetters. He who pleases God escapes her, but the sinner is taken by her. <sup>27</sup> Behold, this is what I found, says the Preacher, while adding one thing to another to find the scheme of things— <sup>28</sup> which my soul has sought repeatedly, but I have not found. One man among a thousand I found, but a woman among all these I have not found. <sup>29</sup> See, this alone I found, that God made man upright, but they have sought out many schemes.

## SERMON NOTES

May 15, 2022: Pastor Brent Miller

Passage: Ecclesiastes 7:15-29

Sermon Title:

*Ecclesiastes: Finding Meaning in a Meaningless World*

### Sermon Notes

## FURTHER STUDY THIS WEEK

### TAKING A CLOSER LOOK

Whether you are meeting with someone this week or you are getting into the Word on your own, we encourage you to work through these questions as you take a deeper look at the sermon passage from this week, or as you dig deeper into the "Read the Bible in Two Years" reading plan that we are currently working through as a church.



1. What are 1-2 things that "shine" from this passage? Whatever impacts the most or draws attention.



2. What are 1-2 things that are difficult to understand in the text, or a question that you would like to ask the writer of the passage or the Lord?



3. What is the central idea of the passage?



4. What are 1-2 personal applications for your own life?



5. With a friend: Find out what is going on in each other's lives. What has been their greatest joy this week? Greatest challenge this week and how they've handled it? What is one area each of you could pray about for each other as it relates to growing with your relationship with the Lord, a spouse, child or friend?

### May Memory Verse

#### Romans 5:21

so that, as sin reigned in death, grace also might reign through righteousness leading to eternal life through Jesus Christ our Lord.