

Time and Season First Session Guide

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Open with Stillness

What are you grateful for?

Discussion Questions

Make it personal

Closing Prayer

Discussion Questions:

Finding Meaning in the Mundane, page 8

Meaningless? Meaningless! Says the teacher. Utterly meaningless! Everything's meaningless. Ecclesiastes 1:1 (NIV)

What do people gain for all their labors at which they toil under the sun? Ecclesiastes 1:3 (NIV)

What does meaningless mean?

Possibly a lack of significance.

What does significance mean?

Possibly a quality of being important.

What does important mean?

Valuable, worthy, possibly.

What do worth and value mean?

Identity.

So could “meaningless” mean a lack of identity?

Beyond the Sun, page 13

We don't find our purpose under the sun, but beyond it?
What do you think?

If you love me, keep my commands. And I will ask the Father, and he will give you another advocate to help you and be with you forever—the Spirit of truth. The world cannot accept him, because it neither sees him nor knows him. But you know him, for he lives with you and will be^{with} in you. I will not leave you as orphans; I will come to you. Before long, the world will not see me anymore, but you will see me. Because I live, you also will live. On that day you will realize that I am in my Father, and you are in me, and I am in you. Whoever has my commands and keeps them is the one who loves me. The one who loves me will be loved by my Father, and I too will love them and show myself to them.” Then Judas (not Judas Iscariot) said, “But, Lord, why do you intend to show yourself to us and not to the world?” Jesus replied, “Anyone who loves me will obey my teaching. My Father will love them, and we will come to them and make our home with them. Anyone who does not love me will not obey my teaching. These words you hear are not my own; they belong to the Father who sent me. John 14:15-24 (NIV)

Under the sun means what is on earth, so how does this passage relate to what Jesus is saying about provision under the sun?

It is because of him that you are in Christ Jesus, who has become for us wisdom from God—that is, our righteousness, holiness, and redemption. 1 Corinthians 1:30 (NIV)

We are not our past mistakes; instead, we are seen beyond as holy to our Father. It is His gift of to us.

What are your thoughts?

When Knowledge Hurts, page 17

He has become for us wisdom from God—that is, our righteousness, holiness, and redemption. 1 Corinthians 1:30 (NIV)

What does this scripture mean?

What are we really looking for that is satisfied only in a fulfilling and growing relationship with Jesus?

The Pleasure is Mine, page 22

From Heaven's perspective, our lives appear differently than they do from Earth's. God perceives things we cannot see or have blind spots for.

What are we really looking for that can only be satisfied in a fulfilling and growing relationship with Jesus?

Thoughts?

The Reason to Rest, page 27

What do people get for all the toil and anxious striving with which they labor under the sun?
Ecclesiastes 2:22

God is part of our labor and part of our rest—we can work hard and rest. God is part of our labor and part of our rest—we can work hard and rest. When we engage in all our activities with Him and for Him, there's no distinction between work and rest. We can find rest in our work and work in our rest. Everything we do is for Him, with Him, and through Him, because He's present in every moment we dedicate to Him. He invites us to a partnership that is life-giving, life-affirming, and life-sustaining in everything we do.

What are your thoughts?

Read Dead Ends on page 29

Our redeemed life is not centered on the pursuit and enjoyment of wealth, knowledge/wisdom, pleasure, status, but the acceptance of the divine gift that frees us to a life of humble service.

What are your thoughts?

A Season for Everything, page 31

There is a time for everything, and a season for every activity under the heavens. Ecclesiastes 3:1

What season are you in?

What decisions are you navigating in this season?