

Ecclesiastes Sermon Series: Week of May 19, 2024

2023-24 Aim Check-in

- Becoming disciples who make disciples, who make disciples.
- Creating a community of faith that meaningfully engages our community of residence.
- 1. Since you last met as a H2H group, have you made any movement towards the aims we've set?
- 2. How might we as a H2H group help support or encourage you towards these aims?

Discussion Questions Set #1

"Guard your steps when you go to the house of God. Go near to listen rather than to offer the sacrifice of fools, who do not know that they do wrong. Do not be quick with your mouth, do not be hasty in your heart to utter anything before God. God is in heaven and you are on earth, so let your words be few. A dream comes when there are many cares, and many words mark the speech of a fool. When you make a vow to God, do not delay to fulfill it. He has no pleasure in fools; fulfill your vow. It is better not to make a vow than to make one and not fulfill it. Do not let your mouth lead you into sin. And do not protest to the temple messenger, "My vow was a mistake." Why should God be angry at what you say and destroy the work of your hands? Much dreaming and many words are meaningless. Therefore fear God." (Ecclesiastes 5:1-7)

"Be thankful, and so worship God acceptably with reverence and awe." (Hebrews 12:28)

- 1. How do you understand the idea of the "fear of God"? What does it mean to fear God?
- 2. How might understanding "fear of God" as terrified fright rather than relational reverence change our approach to Him?
- 3. If we operate with a "relational reverence" understanding of our approach to God, how might we interpret the guidance to "guard your steps when you go to the house of God"?
- 4. How does the knowledge of God influence our approach to Him?
- 5. What do you think it means to "worship God acceptably with reverence and awe"? How would you gauge if this were a reality in your life?
- 6. Discuss how we come to know God. What practices can help us grow in this knowledge? How might your H2H group become a support for you in this?
- 7. Discuss the difference between the "under the sun" views of the Teacher and our "under the Son" views based upon our knowledge of Jesus in regards to:
 - a. Our use of words in prayer (volume)
 - b. The frequency of our approach to God
 - c. Our integrity of commitment before God

Discussion Questions Set #2

"The Son the radiance of God's glory and the exact representation of his being." (Hebrews 1:3)

"No one has ever seen God, but the one and only Son, who is himself God and is in closest relationship with the Father, has made him known." (John 1:18)

"Don't you know that you yourselves are God's temple and that God's Spirit dwells in your midst?" (1 Corinthians 3:16)

- 1. Do you ever consider just how incredible it is that we have the opportunity to worship Jesus, One who is transcendent yet immanent and "knowable"? How do these realities shape our worship? How ought they shape our worship?
- 2. What practical difference does it make that we worship One who has made God known?
- 3. Why is the gift of the Spirit a help to us in our growth in knowledge of God?

