

**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: "Sweat the Small Stuff"**

"As dead flies give perfume a bad smell, so a little folly outweighs wisdom and honor. The heart of the wise inclines to the right, but the heart of the fool to the left. Even as fools walk along the road, they lack sense and show everyone how stupid they are. Words from the mouth of the wise are gracious, but fools are consumed by their own lips ... At the beginning their words are folly; at the end they are wicked madness—and fools multiply words. No one knows what is coming—who can tell someone else what will happen after them? The toil of fools wearies them; they do not know the way to town." (Ecclesiastes 10:1-3, 12-15)

"Nor should there be obscenity, foolish talk or coarse joking, which are out of place, but rather thanksgiving." (Ephesians 5:4)

"Do not be foolish, but understand what the Lord's will is." (Ephesians 5:17)

1. In this section, the Teacher reveals three concepts to us. Discuss each one in turn, answering how this concept might help the follower of Jesus structure his or her life:
  - a. It only takes a little foolishness to radically spoil wisdom and honour.
  - b. Wisdom and folly are incompatible realities.
  - c. Not only are wisdom and folly incompatible concepts, but that their incompatibility is so significant that fools cannot conceal their folly.
2. Why do you think we might be more accepting of folly as a culture? What issues does this cause for us?
3. Put a practical face on Ephesians 5:4. What specific kinds of behaviours does this verse encourage the follower of Jesus to abandon?
4. Look at Ephesians 5:17. Is it possible to understand the Lord's will and remain foolish?

**Discussion Questions Set #2: "Kings ... Again"**

"There is an evil I have seen under the sun, the sort of error that arises from a ruler: Fools are put in many high positions, while the rich occupy the low ones. I have seen slaves on horseback, while princes go on foot like slaves ... Woe to the land whose king was a servant and whose princes feast in the morning. Blessed is the land whose king is of noble birth and whose princes eat at a proper time—for strength and not for drunkenness ... Do not revile the king even in your thoughts, or curse the rich in your bedroom, because a bird in the sky may carry your words, and a bird on the wing may report what you say." (Ecclesiastes 10:4-7, 16-17, 20)

1. Discuss the error of placing the wrong person in the wrong position. How have you seen this function in your life? Have you witnessed either politically or within the church that fools in positions of power corrupt leadership outcomes?
2. What kinds of things would you look for to identify a "fool"? Can you think of biblical criteria?

**Discussion Questions Set #3: "A Series of Unfortunate Accidents"**

"In all things God works for the good of those who love him, who have been called according to his purpose." (Romans 8:28)

1. In this section, the Teacher suggests that one ought to be prepared for the outcome of unfortunate errors.
2. How do you understand the unfortunate accidents that might befall a person? Do you see this as evidence of the meaninglessness of life as did the Teacher or do you see this differently in the light of Jesus?

**Discussion Questions Set #4**

"Through laziness, the rafters sag; because of idle hands, the house leaks. A feast is made for laughter, wine makes life merry, and money is the answer for everything." (Ecclesiastes 10:18-19)

1. Might our more comfortable and comfort-craving nature point to a growing gravitation towards laziness?
2. What would it practically look like in one's life if Jesus were truly the answer for everything?