



INTRO: The fear of missing out is a powerful force in today's world. People are continually inundated by images of fabulous vacations, crazy parties, unencumbered lifestyles, and wealthier and more luxurious living. Each of these tends to trigger the question, "Am I missing out?" Especially as people make choices which limit their ability to do these things, people wonder if they will regret not having chased any or every dream. It is true that there are wonderful pleasures in this world, but it is a lie that they will fulfill you.

1. What is something you wish you had done/could do?

READ Ecclesiastes 2:1-15

1. In your opinion, "What does pleasure accomplish?"
2. Why do you think the teacher highlights that his wisdom stays with him?
3. In the end, how does the teacher feel about wisdom? Why?

SERMON QUESTIONS:

1. How do people normally look for a good life?
2. What promises do you feel that pleasure or building offer?
3. What makes those promises particularly enticing to you?
4. What makes each of those deadends? -or- How are those promises empty?
5. If even wisdom is meaningless, what can possibly be meaningful? Explain.

OUTRO: Our nation is founded on life, liberty, and the pursuit of happiness; and the hunt for a good life or a better life is deeply ingrained in the American psyche. Every ad and billboard will claim the way to that good or better life. If you buy this car, you will be more outdoorsy. If you buy these foods, you will be more healthy. If you travel here you, will find more joy; but all those promises fall flat. People weren't made to find meaning in fleeting moments. They are good but merely the cherry on top. The path to a better life doesn't start with a larger house but with seeking after the Lord.

PRAY TOGETHER.

(Pray through the things you look for to give you a good life and ask God if you overvalue them.)