



**INTRO:** The teacher calls many things vanity and smoke. Wealth, success, fame, planning, security, and more all find themselves under the teacher's scrutinizing eye. By the end of Ecclesiastes, it is easy to throw our hands up and call this world and everything in it meaningless. Surely, this would be the case if not for one small yet mighty truth: God is near. Life without God is truly meaningless; all things come to an end in dust and decay. On the other hand, a life lived in obedience to God, enjoying his company, and resting in his sovereignty. That is a sight to behold.

1. What do you like about God?

### **READ Ecclesiastes 12:8-14**

1. How does it seem the author feels about wisdom and knowledge here?
2. Should we still fear God post Jesus? Why/why not?
3. What does it mean to keep God's commandments and is it possible?

### **SERMON QUESTIONS:**

1. Over the past weeks, what have we explored which seems most meaningless to you?
2. What is your emotional response to God and does fear play a role?
3. How does something experienced or enacted with God stop being meaningless?
4. What does a life with God look like? More church and Bible reading? Flesh it out.
5. What areas of your life do you need to invite God into?

**OUTRO:** Here is one of the hardest things about the Christian life: taking things that sound good and figuring out how to enact them. We all agree that a life lived with God is better than one without Him, but what does that mean? We often act like the only answer is more time in faith activities. While surely that is a large piece, it will still never outweigh the rest of your life. You don't need to quit your job or abandon your parenting and become a theologian. We need to live faithfully *within* those moments as followers of God. Be a mother *with Christ*, a lawyer *with Christ*, a student *with Christ* by inviting Him into those moments and being cognizant of his presence.

### **PRAY TOGETHER.**

(Pray that God would continually remind you He is here.)