

MORE JOY

Ecclesiastes 11:7-12:8

Life is a fleeting gift, full of beauty and opportunity. The Teacher in Ecclesiastes, in preparing to close the teaching, paints a portrait of the body giving way, of aging and decay. At the heart of the poetry is an invitation: Embrace joy, savor the sweetness of life while you can. This joy is not reckless, but grounded in the awareness that we are accountable to God.

☐ **Monday: Read Ecclesiastes 11:7-8.**

The Teacher calls light “sweet” and encourages us to enjoy every year of life. How can you become more intentional about noticing and savoring joy in your daily routine? What “light” has God given you today?

☐ **Tuesday: Read Ecclesiastes 11:9-10.**

This passage encourages joy *and* reminds us that we are accountable to God. How does that tension – joy and responsibility - shape the way you live? Where might God be inviting you to deeper joy with greater purpose?

☐ **Wednesday: Read Ecclesiastes 12:1.**

“Remember your Creator in the days of your youth...”
What does it mean to center your life around God, not just in hard times, but in times of strength and vitality? How can you practice this today?

☐ **Thursday: Read Ecclesiastes 12:2-5.**

This poetic passage paints the realities of aging and decline. How does reflecting on life’s fragility make you more grateful for what you have now? How might it shape how you treat others?

☐ **Friday: Read Ecclesiastes 12:6-8.**

The silver cord breaks. The spirit returns to God. How does this vision of life’s end shift your perspective on what really matters? What might God be calling you to cherish, or release, while you still have time?

☐ **Saturday: Read Philippians 4:4-5.**

Paul says to “Rejoice in the Lord always,” even while in prison. How is this kind of joy different from happiness based on circumstances? What spiritual practices help you stay rooted in joy regardless of life’s season?

Living with joy means delighting in God’s gifts today while keeping eternity in view, trusting God with both the bright and shadowed days of our journey under the sun.

Every day, choose joy!