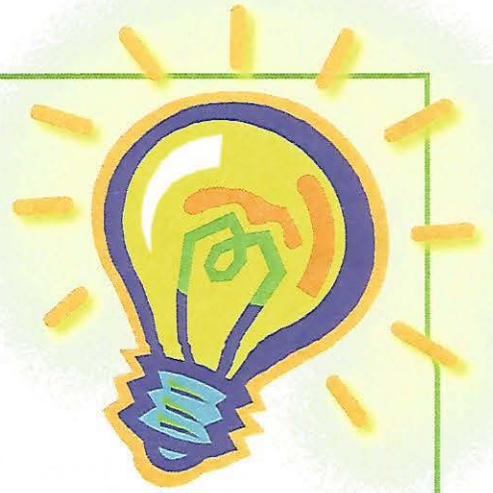


# Lighting the Way



Lesson 10

## What Is Life All About?

**Theme:** True Happiness – Seeing that God has set eternity in our hearts

### Memory Verse

“Now all has been heard; here is the conclusion of the matter: Fear God and keep His commandments, for this is the whole duty of man. For God will bring every deed into judgment, including every hidden thing, whether it is good or evil.”

Ecclesiastes 12:13-14

### Daily Bible Readings

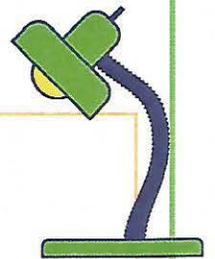
Thursday	Ecclesiastes 1:1-6, 10-14
Friday	Ecclesiastes 2:1-7, 10-11, 17
Saturday	Ecclesiastes 2:18-19, 24-25
Monday	Ecclesiastes 3:1-10
Tuesday	Ecclesiastes 3:11-13, 19-22

**T**he Old Testament book of Ecclesiastes opens with the question, “What does a man get for all of his work?”

Why does he work so hard on this earth?” (1:3, NIV). The man who asked this question calls himself the Preacher. He was searching for something – some purpose, some meaning to his life in the world. This is an important search, and what he writes helps us learn what will make our lives the best they can be.

### Life Under the Sun

“Under the sun” is the Preacher’s favorite way of describing life in the world. He searches for meaning in his life “under

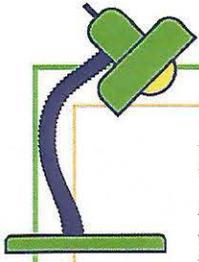


### Ecclesiastes 1:1-6, 10-14

“Vanity” means ...

good.      full.      empty.

What does it mean to strive or chase after wind?



**Ecclesiastes 2:1-7, 10-11, 17**

According to these verses, what did the Preacher try to give some meaning to his life “under the sun”?

Work      Money      Pleasure

Now, list three pleasures the Preacher tried.

- 1. \_\_\_\_\_
- 2. \_\_\_\_\_
- 3. \_\_\_\_\_

the sun” in two ways. One is to live life the way you want to, while the other is to live life the way God wants you to.

The Preacher searched out both ways. He had the money and ability to live any way he wanted to. He looked for some meaning to life “under the sun.” He kept looking for something that made his life important and good. So, what did he try? And what did he learn?

**What is Life All About?**

The Preacher first tried education. He read books and gained knowledge. But he soon saw that this was like chasing the wind. Next he tried pleasure, just having fun. He had the money to do whatever he wanted to do. He drank wine, built houses and parks, and had entertainment. You would think this would be great. But do you know what he found? He found out that pleasure was empty and useless. It was vanity.

The Preacher thought maybe work would make him happy. He worked wisely and hard. Then one day he began thinking about what would happen to all his money and things. He knew some day he would die and leave everything to others. They would get what he worked for and he could do nothing about it. He decided that hard work was also empty and useless. It was vanity.

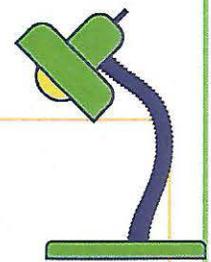
**Is there Something More?**

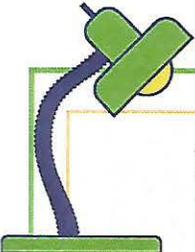
The Preacher thought about life and saw that everything happens at certain times. The earth goes around and life continues. In one day, both good things and bad things happen in the world – birth and death, building up and tearing down, loving and hating, and much more. It just keeps going on and on.

But the Preacher saw that nothing in the world really satisfied his heart and made him

**Ecclesiastes 2:18-19, 24-25**

When a person dies, what happens to all the “stuff” he worked for?





### Ecclesiastes 3:1-10

*True or False?* God has provided a time and place for things in life.

The wise man decided his work ...

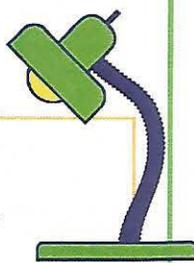
- was the most important thing in life.
- seemed to have no profit.
- took too much time and effort.

feel useful. He knew there was something more and better, because he knew that God set eternity in our hearts.

God's putting eternity in our hearts means that we won't find the best and greatest in this world. We long for something beyond this world, something that will be forever. God made us in His own image so we can be His people. We have to look outside of the world to find what life is really all about.

Life under the sun goes on. We live in the world. But it doesn't take many years to see that what goes on in the world is not so great. It is vanity — useless. So, what do we do?

Life has its good moments, but much of it is hard and bad. The Preacher just couldn't find any great meaning for his life in this world. So he kept looking. What will he find?

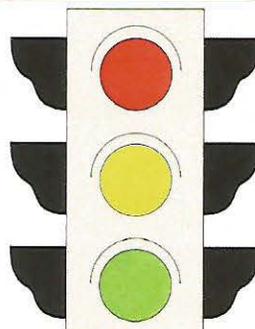


### Ecclesiastes 3:11-13, 19-22

What did God put in our hearts that causes us to look beyond this world for meaning?

- Love
- Eternity
- Desire for riches

I remember that some things look fun but really aren't fun.



Put an X in the light that best describes you.

**Red** — usually not

**Yellow** — sometimes

**Green** — all the time



The wise man refers to striving or chasing after wind. Discuss with a parent what this means and define it here:

Describe something you did that took a lot of time and hard work, but when it was finished it didn't last — something like dusting the furniture. How is this like striving after the wind?

## Shine a Light on the Bible Facts



Which books of the Old Testament are about kings ruling Israel and focus on the temple?

Fill in the blanks with the Beatitudes: "Blessed are the \_\_\_\_\_ in spirit, for theirs is the \_\_\_\_\_ of heaven. Blessed are those who \_\_\_\_\_, for they shall be \_\_\_\_\_. Blessed are the gentle, for they shall inherit the \_\_\_\_\_. Blessed are those who \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_ for righteousness, for they shall be satisfied. Blessed are the \_\_\_\_\_, for they shall receive \_\_\_\_\_. Blessed are the \_\_\_\_\_ in heart, for they shall see \_\_\_\_\_. Blessed are the \_\_\_\_\_, for they shall be called \_\_\_\_\_ of God. Blessed are those who have been \_\_\_\_\_ for the \_\_\_\_\_ of \_\_\_\_\_, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven." NASB

On a map inside the back cover, locate the United Kingdom and the Twelve Tribes. Before you look at the map, write the names of the Southern and Northern Kingdoms.