

Growth Teams

Week Beginning
Sunday 12th October 2014

Going deeper

Ecclesiastes 5:19 says, "To accept his lot and be happy in his work – this is the gift of God." The passage below is towards the end of a letter that Paul wrote to the church in Philippi. Part of the purpose of the letter is to thank them for a gift they sent to him by Epaphroditus. In this section of the letter he thanks them for the gift, but is careful to demonstrate the importance of being content with whatever situation God gives you.

Please read Philippians 4:10-20

4. Paul starts his 'thank you' for the gift by saying that he rejoices greatly. What is it that he actually rejoices in? (verses 10,14-16).
5. Why is Paul not in need? Who helps him to live in this way? (verses 11-13)
6. How does Paul encourage the Philippians in their generosity? (verses 14-19)
7. Why do you think Paul phrases his 'thank you' in this way? What important attitudes is he encouraging among the Philippians?
8. In a society that is obsessed with consumerism, how can we like Paul encourage others in an attitude of contentment and generosity?

Growth Teams

Growth Teams are a wonderful opportunity to go deeper with other Christians. They are a great place to build real friendships and support networks, to pray for one another and to look more carefully at the topics we consider on a Sunday.

This month we are looking at the book of Ecclesiastes. It is a book that forces us to take a much deeper look at life. Initially this is quite challenging, but it ultimately helps us to have a much better perspective on what life is all about.

Tue. (New!) 7:30pm

Wed. 10:30am

7:30pm

Thu. 9:00am



**Growing in Christ
to glorify God
and enjoy Him forever.**

Now turn over and do 'Applying it to our lives'.

What good is money?

Ecclesiastes 5:10-20 (page 671)

Space to take notes on the talk

4 _____ of money:

1. _____
2. _____
3. _____
4. _____

3 _____ on money:

1. _____
2. _____
3. _____

Starter question

- ❖ What is your favourite advert or advertising slogan?

Responding to the talk

1. What do you think is the most important thing that people should take from this week's talk?
2. Read Ecclesiastes 5:10-17 again.
 - a. What are the problems with money - according to the writer?
 - b. Which of these do you think is the biggest problem?
 - c. How do these verses challenge people's attitude to money today?
3. Read Ecclesiastes 5:18-20
 - a. What positive attitudes to money and work is the writer suggesting?
 - b. How do these attitudes differ to those of the rich in verses 10-17? See especially verses 10, 13.
 - c. In what ways does Jesus pick up on this thinking in Matthew 6?

If there is time, you may like to do the 'Going deeper' questions over the page. Otherwise please just jump to questions 9 and 10.

Applying it to our lives

9. In what ways does 'love of money' show itself in our lives? What might we need to do to listen more clearly to the truths of the Bible on the issue of money, rather than the lies of the world?
10. How might our thought patterns need to change in order to enjoy God's gifts and be content with our lot?