



Disruption can mean new perspective. Floating between the “once-normal” and the “yet-to-be-determined normal” can allow us moments to consider the repetitive yet elusive nature of our lives. How impossible it is to hold on to the moment — even to life itself. What if we could work backwards from the end — could we allow the certainty of our mortality to inform how we live?

The certainties of life: death and taxes! In our current reality we wonder about both – the virus, and who will pay for the economic ruin. Ecclesiastes would appear to assume everything is in fact meaningless, but is that so? The Hebrew word Hebel could be better translated vapour, mist, or breath. Life is short and disappears like a puff of smoke. Life is elusive and often out of control. Life is repetitive, once day very much like another. But what if we work backwards from the inevitability of death and discover why everything matters? Maybe we could learn to live.

- Open with prayer.
- If your groups is new, give everyone time to introduce themselves.

CONVERSATION STARTERS

- What clothing was in style when you were a teenager? Is it something you'd wear today?
- What was the first large item that you saved every penny for?

REVIEW

Together, open your Bibles and read from **Ecclesiastes 1:1-11**

Share your favourite points from the weekend sermon. What spoke to you? Share a phrase or moment that you related to the most, or a question you may have from the weekend.

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

- What situations do you find the most frustrating in life? How do you express frustration or despair?
- The word for “meaningless” could also be translated vapour, mist, or breath. How would that help you interpret the phrase, “everything is meaningless”?
- Have you seen other famous people (modern or historical) who have also arrived at similar conclusions about life?
- What does it mean that “there is nothing new under the sun” (v. 9)?
- How does Jesus give meaning to our lives? To your life?
- What would you like to be remembered for after you are long gone?
- How do these verses apply to your life? What will you do about it?

PRAISE & PRAYER POINTS

Share what God is doing in your life and spend some time praying for each other's prayer requests.