

## Life as Gain or Gift?

### #2 The Quest

Ecclesiastes 1:12-2:26

Steve King, Senior Pastor

### The King on a Quest

Ecclesiastes 1:12-15

### Life as Gain

Ecclesiastes 1:16-2:23

### Life as Gift

Ecclesiastes 2:24-26

#### Reflection questions

**Monday** – Review Ecclesiastes' author and purpose (1:1; 12:9-11), introduction (1:2-3) and conclusion (12:12-13). Remember Jesus taught that the Old Testament points to Him (John 5:39; Luke 24:44-47). In what ways does Jesus fulfill the longings Ecclesiastes expresses?

**Tuesday** – Read Ecclesiastes 1:12-23 and trace the “downward spiral” of the author; note key negative phrases and questions. Contrast his view with Paul's in Romans 8:18-24.

**Wednesday** – Read Ecclesiastes 1:12-23. What is the author's quest? Outline the specific areas he explored and why he was so disappointed. Can you relate to his viewpoint? How?

**Thursday** – Read Ecclesiastes 2:24-26. How many times is God mentioned and why? How can a person be good in God's sight? (Memorize Hebrews 11:6; John 6:29)

**Friday** – Read Ecclesiastes 1:12-2:26 and contrast the consequences of seeing life as gain (1:12-2:23) or gift (2:24-26). Read Matthew 6:25-34 discover ways it parallels Ecclesiastes 2:24-26

**Saturday** – Read Ecclesiastes 3:1-15 and bring a friend with you Sunday.