

## **Week 8: The Vanity of Youth**

**Date:** October 31st, 2021

**Passage:** Ecclesiastes 11:8 - 12:8

Small Group Discussion questions help us dig deeper, connecting Sunday's sermons with our everyday lives. These questions have been designed to help Small Groups grow in their relationship with God, with one another, and with their neighbors. Please know that these questions are meant to be a resource to you. You do not have to follow them verbatim or get through them all. Use these questions in the way that best serves your Small Group.

1. **Read** Ecclesiastes 11:8 - 12:8
2. What stood out to you from the sermon and this passage? What challenged you? Encouraged you?
3. In what ways does our culture despise or idolize old age and/or youthfulness? Do you think our culture has made an idol out of youth?
4. **Read** Psalm 71:17-18 - Discuss
5. What do older mature Christians have to offer younger Christians? What do younger Christians have to offer older Christians?
6. The Preacher has a lot to say about God's judgment in this passage. Why do you think some people have a hard time with the Biblical teaching of God's judgment? Does the promise of God's future judgment encourage you or discourage you? Why?
7. **Read** Romans 1:24-25 (and **re-read** Ecclesiastes 12:1) - In what ways should we remember our Creator? Why is this so important?
8. The Puritans, our Christian forebears talked about "the art of dying well." The Preacher wants us to reckon with our inevitable death in the future in order to help us live better in the present. How does knowing you will die one day help you live differently? Why do you think people try not to think about death?
9. If you are "older," what are some ways you can remember your Creator? If you are "younger," what are some ways right now you can remember your Creator?

**Pray:** Thank God for sustaining your life. Repent of the ways that you have forgotten your Creator. Ask God to give you the grace and perseverance to live faithfully all the years of life that God gives you. Rejoice in the fact that Jesus has conquered death!