

Ecclesiastes

The Search for Meaning

Authority

Ecclesiastes 8:1-9

1. Wisdom lightens the burden of authority. (v. 1)

2. Wisdom reveals the character of submission. (vv. 2-5)
 - Honor

 - Loyalty

 - Respect

 - Discernment

3. Wisdom puts authority into perspective. (vv. 6-9)

Download “*Authority*,” 11th in the *Ecclesiastes* series (08/19/12) free, or share it via email, Facebook or Twitter at hcbc.com/media. You may also purchase a CD at the Media Center in the East Lobby.

My Application

Use the following questions this week to reflect on what it would mean to align yourself with the truths taught in Scripture. Each question is meant for both personal reflection and as a catalyst for discussion with your family, friends, or small group.

- 1) Read Romans 13:1-7 and Ephesians 6:1-3. Where did governmental authority come from? Why is it important? What about parental authority?
- 2) A wise person knows how to relate to authority. What ideas do you glean from Ecclesiastes 8:2-4?
- 3) Proverbs is an excellent resource for how to deal with authority. Look up “king” in Proverbs and see what wisdom you can find.
- 4) As one in authority, what temptations would you face? How could you overcome them? See Ecclesiastes 8:7-9

Memory Verse
Ecclesiastes 8:1b

“Wisdom brightens a man’s face and changes its hard appearance.”