

Ecclesiastes

The Search for Meaning

Success

Ecclesiastes 2:12-26

I. The limitations of human success

Limitation #1: We are all going to die.

Limitation #2: You can't keep it.

Limitation #3: You can't protect it.

Limitation #4: You can't even enjoy it.

Limitation #5: We live in a beautiful
and broken world. (Genesis 1-3)

II. Living within the limitations

With God = Contentment and rest

Without God = Continued struggle to succeed

Download "Success," 3rd in the *Ecclesiastes* series (06/03/12) free, or share it via email, Facebook or Twitter at hbc.com/media. You may also purchase a CD at the Resource 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) Do you consider yourself a wise person? What are the benefits of wisdom? See 7:12, 19, 8:1, 9:16. What is its greatest limitation? See 2:16.
- 2) What do you feel are your greatest achievements in life? How many of these will outlive you? What will you leave behind?
- 3) What is the best that can be expected for the person who lives without God? Read verses 22-24 and 26b.
- 4) What should a Christian expect to get from life? See verses 24-26. How should this reality change the way we live in the world?

Memory Verse
Ecclesiastes 2:25

“For without him (God), who can eat or find enjoyment?”