

Ecclesiastes

The Search for Meaning

Monotony

Ecclesiastes 1:1-18

A look at nature

Life is a monotonous routine.

Exhibit A: Nagging cycles

Exhibit B: Nothing new

A look at wisdom

Life is a maddening, unfixable reality.

The more you learn the less you know.

The more you know the less you laugh.

When this world's monotony drives you mad, remember you were made for another world.

Download "Monotony," 1st in the *Ecclesiastes* series (05/20/12) free, or share it via email, Facebook or Twitter at hcbc.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) Solomon describes the cycles of nature as proof that life under the sun has no ultimate purpose. Read verses 4-7. How does this prove his point?
- 2) Read verse 9 and then evaluate this statement: "There comes a time when one asks even of Shakespeare, even of Beethoven; 'Is that all?'"
- 3) We are continually discovering new technology. How can Solomon say that there is nothing new under the sun? See verses 9-10.
- 4) In what way does wisdom cause sorrow? See verse 18. What do we need to learn here that is hard to hear but important to accept?



Memory Verse
Ecclesiastes 1:3

"What does man gain from all his labor at which he toils under the sun?"