

Ecclesiastes

The Search for Meaning

Conundrums

Ecclesiastes 7:1-14

Wisdom is a puzzle. (vv. 1-10)

Funerals better than birthday parties?

Harsh teachers better than fun friends?

Later better than sooner?

“Today” better than the “good ole days”?

Wisdom is a life preserver. (vv. 11-14)

Wisdom offers protection.

Wisdom offers perspective.

Download “*Conundrums*,” 9th in the *Ecclesiastes* series (08/5/12) 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) Read over Ecclesiastes. 7:1-10. It seems that Solomon is saying that the things we try to avoid are the very things that benefit us the most. Is that true of you? Why or why not?
- 2) From these verses, draw a profile of a fool and of a wise man. You may want to include some insight from the Proverbs as well. Do you identify more with the wise person or the fool?
- 3) What are some of the ways money and wisdom serve as a life-preserver? How is wisdom better than money? How can a person get wisdom? (See Psalm 90:12; 119:105; Proverbs 1:7; James 1:5)
- 4) It's easy to say God is in control when things are going well. How can a person maintain confidence when life's path is crooked and steep? (See Psalm 46:10; Isaiah 40:28-31; Romans 8:28-39)



Memory Verse **Ecclesiastes 7:14**

“When times are good, be happy; but when times are bad, consider: God has made one as well as the other. Therefore man cannot discover anything about his future.”