



Bible Life Group Discussion

How's the Wind Blowing? You Must Reverently Obey – Discussion
(Ecclesiastes 2:11-26, 12:13-14)

Sunday, June 22, 2025

Pastor Robert L. Scott, Jr.

Discussion

1. **Message Point:** Why must you reverently obey? Because Jesus Christ said you must.

*Matthew 10:26-33 Don't be afraid of anyone! **Everything that is hidden will be found out**, and every secret will be known. ²⁷ **Whatever I say to you in the dark, you must tell in the light.** And you must announce from the housetops whatever I have whispered to you. ²⁸ **Don't be afraid of people. They can kill you, but they cannot harm your soul. Instead, you should fear God who can destroy both your body and your soul in hell.** ²⁹ Aren't two sparrows sold for only a penny? But your Father knows when any one of them falls to the ground. ³⁰ Even the hairs on your head are counted. ³¹ **So don't be afraid! You are worth much more than many sparrows.** ³² **If you tell others you belong to me, I will tell my Father in heaven you are my followers.** ³³ But if you reject me, I will tell my Father in heaven you don't belong to me. CEV*

Discussion Topic: *What is something you have feared that people might do to you? Please elaborate.*

2. **Message Point:** What specifically did Solomon learn to be chasing after the wind? The pursuit of earthly knowledge, wisdom, and understanding.

*Ecclesiastes 1:16-18 I said to myself, "Look, I have increased in wisdom more than anyone who has ruled over Jerusalem before me; **I have experienced much of wisdom and knowledge.**" ¹⁷ **Then I applied myself to the understanding of wisdom, and also of madness and folly, but I learned that this, too, is a chasing after the wind.** ¹⁸ **For with much wisdom comes much sorrow; the more knowledge, the more grief.** NIV*

Discussion Topic: *What is one way you have found pursuing earthly knowledge, wisdom, or understanding to be unsatisfying or disappointing? Please elaborate.*

3. **Message Point:** What specifically did Solomon learn to be chasing after the wind? The pursuit of whatever brings you pleasure.

Ecclesiastes 2:1-11 I said to myself, "Come now, I will test you with pleasure to find out what is good." But that also proved to be meaningless. ² "Laughter," I said, "is madness. And what does pleasure accomplish?" ³ I tried cheering myself with wine, and embracing folly—my mind still guiding me with wisdom. I wanted to see what was good for people to do under the heavens during the few days of their lives. ⁴ I undertook great projects: I built houses for myself and planted vineyards. ⁵ I made gardens and parks and planted all kinds of fruit trees in them. ⁶ I made reservoirs to water groves of flourishing trees. ⁷ I bought male and female slaves and had other slaves who were born in my house. I also owned more herds and flocks than anyone in Jerusalem before me. ⁸ I amassed silver and gold for

myself, and the treasure of kings and provinces. I acquired male and female singers, and a harem as well—the delights of a man’s heart. ⁹ I became greater by far than anyone in Jerusalem before me. In all this my wisdom stayed with me. ¹⁰ I denied myself nothing my eyes desired; I refused my heart no pleasure. My heart took delight in all my labor, and this was the reward for all my toil. ¹¹ Yet when I surveyed all that my hands had done and what I had toiled to achieve, everything was meaningless, a chasing after the wind; nothing was gained under the sun. NIV

Topic to consider: *What is one way you have found pursuing whatever brought you pleasure to be unsatisfying or disappointing? Please elaborate.*

4. Message Point: What specifically did Solomon learn to be chasing after the wind? The pursuit of acquiring things because of envy.

Ecclesiastes 4:4-6 And I saw that all toil and all achievement spring from one person’s envy of another. This too is meaningless, a chasing after the wind. ⁵ Fools fold their hands and ruin themselves. ⁶ Better one handful with tranquility than two handfuls with toil and chasing after the wind. NIV

Topic to consider: *What is one way you have found pursuing acquisition of things because of envy to be unsatisfying or disappointing? Please elaborate.*

Own Your Own (Points for Further Reflection)

A. Message Point: Why must you reverently obey? Because Jesus Christ said you must. Because the wisest man next to Jesus says you must.

Luke 11:31 The Queen of the South will rise at the judgment with the people of this generation and condemn them, for she came from the ends of the earth to listen to Solomon’s wisdom; and now something greater than Solomon is here. NIV

1 Kings 10:23-25 King Solomon was greater in riches and wisdom than all the other kings of the earth. ²⁴ The whole world sought audience with Solomon to hear the wisdom God had put in his heart. ²⁵ Year after year, everyone who came brought a gift—articles of silver and gold, robes, weapons and spices, and horses and mules. NIV

Ecclesiastes 1:12-14 I, the Teacher, was king over Israel in Jerusalem. ¹³ I applied my mind to study and to explore by wisdom all that is done under the heavens. What a heavy burden God has laid on mankind! ¹⁴ I have seen all the things that are done under the sun; all of them are meaningless, a chasing after the wind. NIV

Ecclesiastes 12:13-14 Now all has been heard; here is the conclusion of the matter: Fear God and keep his commandments, for this is the duty of all mankind. ¹⁴ For God will bring every deed into judgment, including every hidden thing, whether it is good or evil. NIV

Topic to consider: *What do you think is the primary reason you have a hard time obeying God? Please elaborate.*

- a. *You think you know better than God;*
 - b. *You don't know what to obey*
 - c. *God's mercy and patience which often delays consequences*
 - d. *You see so many others disobeying*
- Other _____.

- B. **Message Point:** What specifically did Solomon learn to be chasing after the wind? The pursuit to overcome death with wise living.

Ecclesiastes 2:12-16 Then I turned my thoughts to consider wisdom, and also madness and folly. What more can the king's successor do than what has already been done? ¹³ I saw that wisdom is better than folly, just as light is better than darkness. ¹⁴ The wise have eyes in their heads, while the fool walks in the darkness; but I came to realize that the same fate overtakes them both. ¹⁵ Then I said to myself, "The fate of the fool will overtake me also. What then do I gain by being wise?" I said to myself, "This too is meaningless." ¹⁶ For the wise, like the fool, will not be long remembered; the days have already come when both have been forgotten. Like the fool, the wise too must die! NIV

Topic to consider: *What is one way you have found pursuing righteousness through wise living to be unsatisfying or disappointing? Please elaborate.*

- C. **Message Point:** What specifically did Solomon learn to be chasing after the wind? The pursuit of power and influence.

Ecclesiastes 4:13-16 It is better to be a poor but wise youth than an old and foolish king who refuses all advice. ¹⁴ Such a youth could rise from poverty and succeed. He might even become king, though he has been in prison. ¹⁵ But then everyone rushes to the side of yet another youth who replaces him. ¹⁶ Endless crowds stand around him, but then another generation grows up and rejects him, too. So it is all meaningless—like chasing the wind. NLT

Ecclesiastes 12:13-14 Now all has been heard; here is the conclusion of the matter: Fear God and keep his commandments, for this is the duty of all mankind. ¹⁴ For God will bring every deed into judgment, including every hidden thing, whether it is good or evil. NIV

Topic to consider: *What is one way you have found pursuing power, influence, or prestige to be unsatisfying or disappointing? Please elaborate.*