

The Search That Never Ends: Ecclesiastes 1:12-18

Sermon Challenge

Name: _____ Date: _____

BEFORE THE SERMON: What do people often search for to find happiness? (3 points)

- ☐ Money
☐ Fame
☐ Possessions
☐ All of the above

KEY VERSE: Ecclesiastes 1:14 I have seen all the works that are done under the sun; and, behold, all is vanity and vexation of spirit.

According to this verse, what did Solomon see when he looked at everything done “under the sun”?
 _____ (2 points)

What does “under the sun” mean in this sermon?

_____ (2 points)

SERMON OUTLINE TRACKER: Fill in the blanks as Pastor Nathan preaches through each point.

Point 1: The Search _____ (3 points)

Point 2: The Search Is _____ (3 points)

Point 3: The Search Finds _____ (3 points)

Point 4: The Search Climbs _____ (3 points)

Point 5: The Search Tries _____ (3 points)

Point 6: The Search Never _____ (3 points)

QUICK LISTENING CHALLENGE: What phrase in Ecclesiastes describes life viewed from an earthly perspective, without God at the center?

- ☐ Over the moon ☐ Under the sun ☐ In the clouds ☐ Above the stars (2 points)

FIND IT IN YOUR BIBLE: Find these verses in your KJV Bible during the sermon. (3 points each if found)

☐ Ecclesiastes 1:12-13	☐ Ecclesiastes 1:14	☐ Ecclesiastes 1:15	☐ Romans 5:12	☐ Ecclesiastes 1:16
☐ 1 Kings 10:23	☐ 2 Chronicles 1:12	☐ 1 Kings 3:12	☐ Ecclesiastes 1:17	☐ Ecclesiastes 1:18

HEART CHECK: What Am I Searching For?

Name one thing people often chase “under the sun” to find happiness or satisfaction:

_____ (3 points)

What can only God give that the world cannot give?

_____ (3 points)

CHALLENGE QUESTION: Why should we stop searching “under the sun” for true satisfaction? (3 points)

- ☐ Because money is always bad. ☐ Because Solomon already searched there and found it empty.
☐ Because wisdom is never useful. ☐ Because God does not want us to enjoy life.

TRUE OR FALSE (2 points each)

- | | | |
|--|------|-------|
| 1. Solomon was an average man with very few resources. | TRUE | FALSE |
| 2. Solomon gave his heart to seek and search out by wisdom. | TRUE | FALSE |
| 3. Solomon tried every path man takes. | TRUE | FALSE |
| 4. Man can straighten everything crooked through money, education, and effort. | TRUE | FALSE |
| 5. Sin made the world a better place. | TRUE | FALSE |
| 6. Increasing knowledge always removes grief and sorrow. | TRUE | FALSE |
| 7. Solomon found emptiness in the world. | TRUE | FALSE |
| 8. The answer to man's emptiness is to keep searching harder under the sun. | TRUE | FALSE |

WHO WAS IT?

Who was "the Preacher" who was king over Israel in Jerusalem? _____ (2 points)

Who is the only One who can truly make the crooked straight? _____ (2 points)

QUICK LISTENING CHALLENGE: In the ladder illustration, what did the man coming down from the top say was there? _____ (2 points)

PERSONAL APPLICATION: What is one area of your life where you need to stop chasing the world and trust God more? (2 points) _____

ONE THING I LEARNED THAT I DIDN'T KNOW: _____ (2 points)

ONE SENTENCE SUMMARY (Summarize today's sermon in one sentence): _____
_____ (2 points)

DISCUSSION: Why do you think people keep searching in the same places Solomon already searched?
_____ (2 points)

FINAL CHALLENGE: Complete this statement: (2 points)

Stop searching _____ the sun for what can only be found _____ the sun.

One question I have for the preacher that wasn't answered:

_____ (2 points)

Other comments or notes:

Next Sermon: Song of Solomon 1:9-17 The Secret to Lasting Love: by Pastor Joshua Tapp. Read the chapter to prepare for the next sermon challenge.

★ **Score:** _____ / 100 Points ► **Initial** (I completed this honestly on my own): _____

95-100 = Faithful Servant, 90-94 = Diligent Disciple, 80-89 = Bible Scholar
70-79 = Good Listener, 60-69 = Bible Student, Below 60 = Keep Growing