

**Food for thought**

**1/23/22**

**Life is a vapor**

**Work is fleeting**

**Ecclesiastes 2:18-26**

### **Day 1 – Understanding the passage**

Read Ecclesiastes 2:18-26

- What stands out to you in this passage or from the message?
- Count the repeated words: toil, vanity, enjoyment/sorrow, wisdom/wise/fool, the sun.
- Compare the tone of this passage (24-26) to what we have previously seen in Ecclesiastes.
  - Why the shift?
  - Does this passage make Ecclesiastes easier or more difficult to understand?
- How does the author use the word “hate” – vv 17, 18?
- State the main point of this passage in one sentence.

### **Day 2 – Taking stock of our lives**

- What is your job? What do you actually do?
- If you were financially independent, what would you do?
- How does your work make you feel?
- Recall a time where your work was undone by someone else.
- There is a curse to our current work
  - How is your work unending and pointless?
  - How does work make you more selfish?
  - How does work reveal heart idols in your life?
- How has your attitude toward work changed throughout your life?
  - How did your parents approach work?
  - Do you have people that are good models or mentors in your work?
  - Name an event that changed the way you see work.

### **Day 3 – Applying the Bible to our lives**

- Why do you think God has you doing what you are doing now?
- How do you fight despair in your work?
- In what ways does your work benefit others? What would it be like if there was no one doing what you did?
- How do you honor the Lord in your work know that you, “work for the Lord and not for men” Colossians 3:23?
- What is one area that the Lord wants you to see or act differently when it comes to your work?

Note: Community Groups are a great way to go deeper in the message with other believers. For more information on Community Groups, contact [todd@ankenyfree.church](mailto:todd@ankenyfree.church)