

Open It

Where do you think satisfaction in life is found? What would you do if you had all the time and money needed to pursue your dreams?

Consider It

Where did Solomon begin his quest? To what did he devote himself (1:12-13, 16-17)?

What were Solomon's next pursuits (2:1-9)?

- Pleasures (2:1-3)
- Projects (2:4-6)
- Possessions (2:7-9)

What pleasures do the people you know pursue? What projects do you undertake? What possessions do we accumulate?

In what ways do our pursuits of pleasure, projects or possessions become harmful to ourselves or others?

How does Solomon summarize these pursuits (2:10)?

What is missing? What is Solomon not pursuing (Isaiah 55:1-6, Matthew 6:33)?

Live It

Seek the Lord!

What would a wholehearted pursuit of God look like?

Serve Others!

Test. Look for opportunities each day this week to serve someone else. How satisfying is serving?

Sow Seeds!

Telling your story. I have looked for meaning...I have pursued happiness in...but, all of these pursuits came up empty, left me wanting something more, something else.

The Quest for a Meaningful Life

Does Anything Truly Satisfy?

Ecclesiastes 1:12 – 2:11

January 9th and 10th, 2021

Sermon Proposition

Let's Learn from Solomon's Example. Avoid Empty Pursuits.

The Pursuit of Learning..... 1:11-18

I applied my mind to study and to explore by wisdom all that is done under the heavens.

Ecclesiastes 1:13 (NIV)

The Pursuit of Pleasure..... 2:1-3

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.

Ecclesiastes 2:1 (NIV)

The Pursuit of Accomplishment..... 2:4-6

I undertook great projects:

Ecclesiastes 2:4 (NIV)

The Pursuit of Significance2:9

I became greater by far than anyone in Jerusalem before me.

Ecclesiastes 2:9 (NIV)

The Pursuit of More 2:7-8

I bought...I owned more...than anyone in Jerusalem before me.

Ecclesiastes 2:7 (NIV)

Conclusion: The Missing Pursuit