

## Discussion Questions

*“Prosperity, Adversity, & Providence “*

Ecclesiastes 6:10-7:14

1. Why do you think we like to avoid thinking about the inevitability of death? In what ways do you see people trying to distract themselves from this reality?
2. How can occasions of mourning and sadness give us a heart of wisdom (Psalm 90:12, Psalm 119:71)? What does it mean for the heart of the wise to be in the house of mourning?
3. What are the benefits of wise rebuke and how can the instruction of the wise be made useful? Cf. Proverbs 12:21, Psalm 141:5, 2 Timothy 4:2, Proverbs 29:15.
4. Why do you think patience and temperance are commonly viewed as weaknesses in our culture? What do verses 7-10 teach us about patience, contentment, and temperance? Cf. Proverbs 13:11, Philippians 4:6, James 1:20.
5. Do you find yourself longing to be in another season of life or glamorizing your past? How does an understanding of divine providence help us to be content? Cf. Psalm 119:68, Psalm 31:15a, Isaiah 45:7, Ecclesiastes 6:10
6. What can we learn from seasons of prosperity? What can we learn from seasons of adversity? How does divine providence instruct us to make good use of both? Cf. Ecclesiastes 7:13-14