

Ecclesiastes: The Quest for Meaning Application Questions

Part 6

Ecclesiastes 5:1 - 7

1. In Ecc. 5:1-7 the "preacher" has some razor sharp words for us regarding how we are to approach our times of corporate worship. What are some of the differences in how the "house of God" in Ecc. 5:1 would have viewed in light of OT compared to how we should view the "house of God" today? Look up the following New Testament scriptures to help you think about some of the differences (John 4:20-24; Ephesians 2:22, Romans 12:1).
2. In the spirit of Ecc. 5:1, how can we guard our steps when drawing near to "the house of God"? What does this look like today for Christians? What does this look like for you each Sunday?
3. According to Ecc. 5:1b, why/ how is listening to God better than the offering sacrifices? How do you practically prepare you heart and mind for the preaching of God's Word each Sunday? What value do you personally place on actively listening with a humble and teachable heart to the preaching of God's Word each week?
4. Pastor Matt said that God hears our prayers not through a microphone but through a stethoscope. What did he mean?
5. How should understanding who God is in relation to us based upon Ecc. 5:2b, impact the way we pray? What vows have you made to the Lord that you have not been faithful to live out? How is Jesus the great "vow keeper" and what hope does that offer us?
6. What is one practice that you (and your family) could begin this week to help keep Sunday corporate worship from becoming just a formality (empty worship)? Come up with a plan.