



# Small Group Leader's Guide

## Week 2: Delighting in Death



### Leader's Tip

Try this ice-breaker tonight: What's something you've accomplished that others may be surprised to know! Go around the group and share.

Read: Ecclesiastes 2

Big idea:

- Life and death will be embraced with delight or with dread depending on who we live to praise.

Main points:

- Under the sun...enjoyment and employment can provide fleeting feelings of happiness but cannot produce never ending joy. (v.1-11)
- Under the sun...death is seen as a cruel fate instead of a joyful eternity that awaits. (v.12-23)
- How to avoid having a life without joy...give what you cannot keep to gain what you cannot lose. (Timothy 6:17-19)

Jesus in Ecclesiastes 2: Jesus went from death to life so that we could too. (Romans 5:4-5)

Personal questions:

- What motivates you on a daily basis to do your work (job, care of your home, children, etc.)?

Discussion question:

- What is the difference between finding enjoyment verses satisfaction in things God has provided?
- What is the authors attitude in verses 17-26? What strong statements does he make about life and the nature of work?
- Desiring what the author might be expressing in verse 23? Paint a picture of what his life might look like according to the verse.
- What is promised for the person who praises God? What is promised to the one who doesn't praise God?
- How can you work, study and live with the purpose of praising God and advancing it's kingdom on earth?

Spiritual exercise:

- This week every time you go to class, study, work, daily responsibilities, stop and pray and dedicate your work to God and His glory. Invite Jesus to be present with you and to work in you and through you.

Ministry time: (Men with men, women with women)

- How would I evaluate myself at balancing work and hobbies with family and spiritual walk?