



Series: Living Life Backward

Sermon: Part 6: Trusting God With Our Future

Date: Sunday, June 11th, 2023

Followers of Jesus can find _____ that even though they don't know, they can trust the God Who does know.

Three Things We Do Not Know:

1. We don't know how to _____ the future

Cast your bread upon the waters, for you will find it after many days. Give a portion to seven, or even to eight, for you know not what disaster may happen on Earth. (Ecclesiastes 11:1-2)

2. We do not know how to do that which only _____ can do

As you do not know the way the Spirit comes to the bones in the womb of a woman with child, so you do not know the work of God who makes everything. (Ecclesiastes 11:5)

If God is infinite and if we are finite and if God knows all and if He is in control, then because He loves us, that means we don't need to function like we need to know every detail or be in control.

3. We don't know how to guarantee success and avoid _____

In the morning sow your seed, and at evening withhold not your hand, for you do not know which will prosper, this or that, or whether both alike will be good. (Ecclesiastes 11:6)

Three Things We Do Know:

1. Wise living is having the posture of _____ hands when it comes to your life and your possessions

Cast your bread upon the waters, for you will find it after many days. Give a portion to seven, or even to eight, for you know not what disaster may happen on Earth. (Ecclesiastes 11:1-2)

“Cast” in this context means “to send out.”

Solomon is saying that because life is uncertain, invest in things that are certain, like eternal things, and do it completely and even beyond that.

And He [Jesus] told them a parable, saying, “The land of a rich man produced plentifully, and he thought to himself, ‘What shall I do, for I have nowhere to store my crops?’ And he said, ‘I will do this: I will tear down my barns and build larger ones, and there I will store all my grain and my



goods.’ And I will say to my soul, “Soul, you have ample goods laid up for many years; relax, eat, drink, be merry.”’ But God said to him, ‘Fool! This night your soul is required of you, and the things you have prepared, whose will they be?’ So is the one who lays up treasure for himself and is not rich toward God.” (Luke 12:16-21 ESV)

“...If anyone would come after Me, let him deny himself and take up his cross and follow Me. For whoever would save his life will lose it, but whoever loses his life for My sake and the Gospel's will save it.” (Mark 8:34-35 ESV)

Jesus’ _____ was the ultimate example of what it meant to lay down your life and give it away to others so they may live.

2. Wise living means that neither success nor failure is _____

If the clouds are full of rain, they empty themselves on the Earth, and if a tree falls to the south or to the north, in the place where the tree falls, there it will lie. He who observes the wind will not sow, and he who regards the clouds will not reap. (Ecclesiastes 11:3-4)

All the rewards of today, including the fact that we are living and breathing right now, is a gift that we don’t deserve, but that God has provided for us to enjoy.

3. Wise living is its own _____

Bottom Line: *Surrender and follow Jesus with ALL of your life, do what you can to honor Him with ALL that you have, and trust Him with ALL of your outcomes.*

Questions to reflect on this week or with others:

1. What are you trying to control in your life? Where is God in relation to that?
2. How are you currently using your resources and money? For your purposes or for God’s purposes? How can you be rich towards God?
3. When was the last time you slowed down to just enjoy the blessings God has given you? How can you do that more often?

Songs used in service: Who You Say I Am (Hillsong), King Of My Heart (Steffany Gretzinger), I Surrender (Taya Gaukrodger & Matt Crocker), Yes He Can (Cain)

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Any prayer requests?

Name: _____ **Email (so we can follow up):** _____

What can we be praying for you about?