

Deeper Wisdom

Small Group Questions



*The following questions are intended to start conversations.
Use only the ones your group finds helpful. Explore others as they come up.*

*Our preaching series this fall is on Wisdom. Questions will be provided each week to help you think about themes **BEFORE** you listen to the sermon. It is our hope that this will encourage your own study and prepare you for the upcoming sermon.*

- Read **Ecclesiastes 3:1-14**. What stands out for you?
- Ecclesiastes claims there is a time for everything, listing a series of experiences in contrasting pairs. How do we reconcile God's sovereignty over time with human responsibility for the choices we make? Does believing that there is a time for everything bring you peace, frustration, or both?
- What is the burden that God has placed on humanity?
- Re-read **Ecclesiastes 3:11**. How do we trust God when our experience seems to contradict the idea that everything is beautiful in its time? When does faith require us to live with unanswered questions rather than explanations? Can you give an example?
- What does it mean that we (who are finite) have eternity in our hearts?
- G. K. Chesterton reportedly said, "Every man who knocks on the door of a brothel is looking for God." Do you agree? Is this an example of having eternity in our hearts, even if we are looking in the wrong places? How might this help us understand desire?
- Re-read **Ecclesiastes 3:12-13**. Is this an act of faith or a way of coping with life's absurdities? Or is it both?
- This text acknowledges the seasons of life without promising that we will understand them. Some seasons bring joy, while others involve grief, loss, or injustice. What does faithful living look like when we cannot see the purpose of our present season?