



## Small Group/ Reflection Notes

| 25-06-2023     |  | YOLO! Live in the dash |  |
|----------------|--|------------------------|--|
| <br>Start      | <input type="checkbox"/> Where have you seen beauty this week?   |                        |  |
| <br>Discuss    | <input type="checkbox"/> What has been your best/ most enjoyable stage of life to date? And hardest?<br><input type="checkbox"/> Danny said, when dealing with the highs and lows of life, we can sometimes confuse the 'departure lounge' with our final destination? What did he mean? Does this metaphor work/ help?  |                        |  |
| <br>Read       | <a href="#">Ecclesiastes 3:1-15</a>  | <br>Listen again       | <a href="http://ChesterRoadBaptist.org.uk/Watch">ChesterRoadBaptist.org.uk/Watch</a> |
| <br>Explore    | <input type="checkbox"/> <a href="#">v.1</a> : How would you describe your current 'season of your life'?<br><input type="checkbox"/> <a href="#">v.2-8</a> : This lists 28 'seasons of life', in paired opposites. Which of these stand out for you? Which have applied to you? When? How?<br><input type="checkbox"/> <a href="#">v.5b</a> : There's a time for having sex and a time for not having sex. How is the same word used/ what is happening in <a href="#">Song of Songs 2:6</a> ? Why is it that we are sometimes more coy than God about intimacy/ bodily functions of life?<br><input type="checkbox"/> <a href="#">v.11a</a> : How, even in some of the most difficult 'seasons of life' can we still experience 'beauty'? e.g. the kindness of strangers, laughter in a hospice... When, in tough times, have you experienced or seen such 'beauty'? Why does Ecclesiastes say, don't deny/ escape the 'tough times'; instead, become even more present in moment, whether good or bad?<br><input type="checkbox"/> <a href="#">v.11b</a> : Why, when we see 'beauty', is it 'heavenly'? What does it mean to have 'eternity within us'? How does having an eternal perspective help us deal with the real life, here & now?<br><input type="checkbox"/> <a href="#">v.15</a> : Ecclesiastes says, don't look back in anger/ dwell on the past (it's happened, there's nothing you can do to change it) or be anxious about the future (what might or might not happen). How is this liberating?<br><input type="checkbox"/> <a href="#">v.12</a> : At funerals we remember someone by their birth and death e.g. 1968 – 2023. Why, in effect, is Ecclesiastes saying, 'live in the dash'?<br><input type="checkbox"/> <a href="#">v.14</a> : What does it mean to 'fear God'? How is this so often misunderstood/ misused, and so discredits God? |                        |  |
| <br>Go further | <input type="checkbox"/> Watch the Bible Project overview of the <a href="#">Book of Ecclesiastes</a> (8 mins)<br><input type="checkbox"/> Some imply God has predetermined our life, from birth to death and everything in between, like a jigsaw, with each piece being another 'life event'. Do you find this helpful or unhelpful? Why? How does this contrast with <a href="#">Ecclesiastes 1:2</a> ?   |                        |  |
| <br>Reflect    | <input type="checkbox"/> Which one verse stands out to you? Why do you think it grabs your attention?<br><input type="checkbox"/> Which verse(s) will you need to think more about? Why?<br><input type="checkbox"/> What does it mean for you to 'live in the dash'?  |                        |  |

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| <br>Do             | <input type="checkbox"/> Take a moment to identify the beauty that is all around you? |
| <br>Pray          |   |
| <br>My questions: |   |

If you're not yet in a small group, why not join one! Check out: [ChesterRoadBaptist.org.uk/SmallGroups](http://ChesterRoadBaptist.org.uk/SmallGroups)  
 Can't see a group to suit your availability/interest? Start one! [SmallGroups@ChesterRoadBaptist.org.uk](mailto:SmallGroups@ChesterRoadBaptist.org.uk).