# Ecclesiastes, Lesson #1 5/11 Ecclesiastes 1 – 2 / Meaningless, Meaningless

### OPEN

Who are you praying for these days who is far from God?

### DIG

1. Did anyone get a chance to look at the Introduction to Ecclesiastes in their Study Bible? What do we know about this book?
2. Who is the author? What do we know about him?
3. Ecclesiastes 1.2. Meaningless, meaningless. This is the key theme in Ecclesiastes. How does your translation translate this word? Does your Study Bible have a note?
4. Meaningless, meaningless. Is this how life is?

1. The Message paraphrases this word, “smoke”; the Amplified, “vapor.” This is almost certainly part of what is meant here. Life is quickly fading. The days are long; the years are short. James 4.14 is a good cross-reference. What do we learn about life from this verse?
2. Solomon had it all. He was the rock star of his day. He was the most powerful, richest person in his world. Did that make it easier or harder to find meaning?
3. Nihilism. That is the technical term for what Solomon is describing. What is meant by Nihilism?
4. “Under the sun” is another theme in Ecclesiastes. What does it mean?
5. One more often repeated phrase in this book: chasing after the wind. What does it feel like to chase after the wind?
6. Ecclesiastes 1.12 – 18. Read this section silently. What did Solomon do to deal with this feeling of meaninglessness?