

Sermon Discussion Guide - Fear God and Keep His Commands Ecclesiastes 12

View sermon here: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=nECC9SOfync>

What is one thing you enjoyed when you were young that you can't really do anymore? How does that shape the way you think about time and aging?

1. Fear God in Youth

- Why do you think the Teacher tells us to “remember your Creator in the days of your youth”?
- What are some unique opportunities young people have to serve, trust, and enjoy God that may not be as easy in older years?
- Ecclesiastes encourages youth to rejoice, but also warns that “for all these things God will bring you into judgment” (12:9). How do joy and accountability fit together in the Christian life?
- How can we encourage younger believers in our church family to live joyfully yet wisely before God?

2. Fear God in Old Age

- The Teacher does not give a great description of old age (dim eyes, stooping bodies, failing strength). What emotions come to mind as you hear this?
- In what ways can older believers model “fearing God” to the next generation, even when strength and vitality are fading?

3. Fear God in Light of Eternity

- Verse 7 reminds us that “the dust returns to the ground it came from, and the spirit returns to God who gave it.” How does this perspective change how we live now?

The conclusion of Ecclesiastes is simple yet profound: “Fear God and keep his commandments.” What does this look like practically in your life today?

How does Jesus Christ give fuller meaning to “fearing God” and “keeping His commandments”?

1 John 2:17 says, “The world and its desires pass away, but whoever does the will of God lives forever.” How does this verse encourage you when life feels fleeting or fragile?

What is one way you can practice joy in God this week (like the Teacher’s encouragement to youth)?

What is one way you can remember God in hardship (like the Teacher’s reminder for old age)?

What is one step you can take to fear God and keep His commandments in light of eternity?