

Sermon-Based Discussion Guide

Date 11/5/23 Bryce Taylor

Watch the sermon at manheimbic.org/sermon.



BIBLE PASSAGES - Ecclesiastes 3:3-14

“There’s a season for everything and a time for every matter under the heavens: a time for giving birth and a time for dying, a time for planting and a time for uprooting what was planted, a time for killing and a time for healing, a time for tearing down and a time for building up, a time for crying and a time for laughing, a time for mourning and a time for dancing, a time for throwing stones and a time for gathering stones, a time for embracing and a time for avoiding embraces, a time for searching and a time for losing, a time for keeping and a time for throwing away, a time for tearing and a time for repairing, a time for keeping silent and a time for speaking, a time for loving and a time for hating, a time for war and a time for peace.

What do workers gain from all their hard work? I have observed the task that God has given human beings. God has made everything fitting in its time, but has also placed eternity in their hearts, without enabling them to discover what God has done from beginning to end.

I know that there’s nothing better for them but to enjoy themselves and do what’s good while they live. Moreover, this is the gift of God: that all people should eat, drink, and enjoy the results of their hard work. I know that whatever God does will last forever; it’s impossible to add to it or take away from it. God has done this so that people are reverent before him.”

Other Passages: Exodus 20:8-11, Hebrews 4:9-11, John 15:1-18, 1 Tim. 4:6-10

Connect:

Get to know each other. Connect, warm up to each other, and take time to fellowship.

Care:

Carry each other's burdens. Share life's challenges and practice Soul Care. Pray together.

Challenge:

1. What season of life would you say you are currently in? Blessing, Trials, Coasting/cruising?
2. What have you done this past week to *abide* in Christ? Share examples with each other to also help inspire new ways to connect with God.
3. Read Exodus 20:8-11 and Hebrews 4:9-11 together, Sabbath/rest was given as a gift by God, yet it is something we have to work to enter into, one way to do that is creating a time log of your day and noticing where you can eliminate distractions to allow for sabbath rest?
4. Practice a sabbath this week. Maybe you can't give a full 24 hours, start small. Can you give 30 minutes? Two hours?
5. Along with the rhythm of rest that we see in Scripture, we see in Ecclesiastes that we should seize moments of joy, moments of work, moments of hardship. This is easy when its fun! And hard when the seasons are difficult. How can you prepare today for future seasons, what is something you can add into your life, or maybe something to take away, so you are ready?

Clarify:

Does anyone need clarity on something? Are there any big God questions you are wrestling with?

Celebrate:

Celebrate life's successes and God's provision. Worship God's presence. Time to brag about God.

KEY TAKEAWAYS