



## Searching for wisdom

### ***Life under the Sun***

*Read Ecclesiastes 1:2-11*

Spend a few minutes trying to put these verses into your own words.

List all the reasons given in verses 5-11 for why there is no real gain for all mankind's work "under the sun".

List some reasons why we can't achieve anything lasting? Why isn't life satisfying according to the Teacher?

*Read Ecclesiastes 1:12-18 and 2:12-17*

List all the things the Teacher concludes about wisdom "under the sun".

### ***Life under the Son***

*Read Romans 8:18-25*

Why is life under the sun meaningless according to v.20? What has God done and what are we waiting for?

*Read 1 Corinthians 1:18-25*

What are we told about God's wisdom and worldly wisdom here?

How is the cross both God's wisdom and His power? How does this make you feel/help you?

Christians live in the tension of both realms (life under the sun and the Son). What are some ways we can deal with the tension of living in a broken world yet saved for the world to come?

How can we respond to a society centred on education? How can we relate to people who think it's the answer to all our problems?

List some ways we can keep our eyes on Jesus as our wisdom, righteousness, sanctification and redemption. (1 Corin. 1:30)

*"The Preacher, the son of David, king in Jerusalem" = the Teacher/collector, most probably Solomon*

*"Under the sun" = life without reference to a personal God*

*"Meaningless/vanity" = vapour, mist, something temporary and pointless*

*"Wisdom, madness and folly" = the full spectrum of life, from the most profound to the most pointless*

**(NB – NCC Physical Gathering re-launch Sunday 9<sup>th</sup> August 8:30am, 10:30am, 6pm - please don't forget to fill out the survey this week <https://northcoastchurch.org.au/re-launch-survey/>)**