

# Summer Soul Searching

## "Legacy"

July 15, 2018

### Leaving a Legacy

#### What is legacy?

A legacy is what we leave people after we are gone. It's what lives on after we die. How will we be remembered? What lasting impact will we leave?

#### 6 ways we "chase after the wind"

**Ecclesiastes 1: 14** - I have seen all the things that are done under the sun; all of them are meaningless, a chasing after the wind.

##### 1. Education

**Ecclesiastes 1: 13, 16, 17** – I applied my mind to study and to explore by wisdom all that is done under the heavens  
**16** - I said to myself, "Look, I have increased in wisdom more than anyone who has ruled over Jerusalem before me."  
**17** - Then I applied myself to the understanding of wisdom, but I learned that this, too, is a chasing after the wind.

##### 2. Work or Accomplishments

**Ecclesiastes 2: 4-6** - I undertook great projects: I built houses for myself and planted vineyards. <sup>5</sup> I made gardens and parks and planted all kinds of fruit trees in them. <sup>6</sup> I made reservoirs to water groves of flourishing trees.

##### 3. Pleasure

**Ecclesiastes 2: 2, 3** - "Laughter," I said, "is madness. And what does pleasure accomplish?" <sup>3</sup> I tried cheering myself with wine, and embracing folly.

##### 4. Wealth

**Ecclesiastes 2: 7-8** - I also owned more herds and flocks than anyone in Jerusalem before me. <sup>8</sup> I amassed silver and gold for myself, and the treasure of kings and provinces.

##### 5. Sex

**Ecclesiastes 2: 10** - I denied myself nothing my eyes desired; I refused my heart no pleasure.

**I Kings 11: 3** - He had seven hundred wives of royal birth and three hundred concubines, and his wives led him astray.

##### 6. Fame

**Ecclesiastes 2: 9 & 11** - I became greater by far than anyone in Jerusalem before me.

**11** - Yet when I surveyed all that my hands had done and what I had toiled to achieve everything was meaningless, a chasing after the wind; nothing was gained under the sun.

#### 3 Choices that build a lasting legacy

**Ecclesiastes 2: 26; 12: 13** - To the person who pleases him, God gives wisdom, knowledge and happiness.

**12: 13** - Now all has been heard; here is the conclusion of the matter: Fear God and keep his commandments, for this is the duty of all mankind.

##### 1. Significance over success

Success is all about self, while significance is planting Godly seeds in our world that will grow longer than we will.

##### 2. Influence over awards

When we equip and build Godly people we build something that lasts beyond our lifetime.

##### 3. Impact over income

Wealth gives us the opportunity to invest in a Godly impact that lasts long after we do.