

ONLY TWO ROADS TO TRAVEL:

The Fundamental Fact Of The Real World?

TEACHER'S GUIDE

LEARNING OBJECTIVES

When it comes to the time we spend on earth, we really only have two options. Each carries dramatic consequences.

PAGE-BY-PAGE TEACHING GUIDE

- Page 12 Give your class two minutes to fill out the left column. They can put anything they want on this list. When they are finished, talk over their answers. Explain that, while it might seem like we have lots of options when it comes to what we might do with our lives, the truth is we only have two. Have them write down this passage: Matthew 7:13-14. Explain that all of us will choose either to reject God and do our own thing, or accept and do His will. Make clear that each of these choices has consequences.
- Page 13 Begin by pointing out that many choose to reject God without really considering the consequences. This is not "real world" living. Break your class into teams. Each team should read the passages and write in the box one of the consequences of life without God. When they are finished, talk it over. Here are the three points to make: (1) you are going to die; (2) you will leave behind everything you collected during your life; (3) in time, every one will forget that you lived. Without God in the picture, that's it! Talk over how this makes them feel. By this time class should be wrapping up. Point out that there are also consequences when a person chooses to believe in God. Ask them to consider these and complete page 14 before coming to class.
- Page 14 Briefly review the discussion from the previous class. Then, divide your class into teams and have each team discuss their findings on page 14. Give them about five minutes and then have them share their answers. Make these points: (1) If we accept God, we must remember Him. (2) We must respect Him enough to do what He says. (3) Recognize that you are accountable to Him. (4) Start living for Him right now, even in your youth. Point out that it's not "real world living" to say you believe in God, and then not live for Him. At this point, give your students an index card and have them write down (anonymously) one specific thing they must change if they are to be consistent about their claim to believe in God (collect and discuss).
- Page 15 Use this page to dramatically illustrate how their choice not to serve God could impact others. The circle on page 15 represents them. Add a circle with an "L" to illustrate that if they are lost, they will probably marry someone who is lost. Add three circles for their children who will likely be lost if both their parents are lost. Add three more next to the children for their spouses who will likely be lost. Add nine below these for the grandchildren that are likely to be lost. Add several circles above for the lost friends who will not be taught. Add circle for their families as well. Keep a running count in the grey box to the left. When you are done, point out how their decision may well impact hundreds of people in the years to come.

Thus
I considered all
my activities
which my hands
had done and
the labor which I
had exerted, and
behold all was
vanity and
striving after
wind and there
was no profit
under the sun.

- Ecclesiastes 2:11

LIVING IN THE REAL WORLD

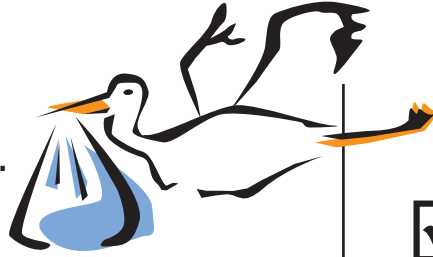


**Studies In
Ecclesiastes**

DECISIONS...DECISIONS

HOW MANY DIFFERENT THINGS CAN A PERSON DO WITH HIS LIFE?

You have two minutes to list as many things as you can think of...



- _____
- _____
- _____
- _____
- _____
- _____
- _____
- _____
- _____
- _____
- _____
- _____
- _____
- _____



REALITY CHECK

A KEY PASSAGE ON LIFE:

OPTION [1]

OPTION [2]

WHAT IF I CHOOSE OPTION [1]?

What If I Choose To Reject God?

Choosing to reject God and “do our own thing” is certainly one way to live life. But if we do, we should at least be honest enough to accept the realities that come with that choice.

What realities do we face if we choose to reject God? Solomon will spell it out for us. Read each passage and note the reality we must face.

1

Ecclesiastes 2:12-16; 9:1-4

2

Ecclesiastes 2:18-23

3

Ecclesiastes 2:16; 9:14-15

After reading these passages and thinking about these points, choose one word that best describes how they make you feel.

WHAT IF I CHOOSE OPTION [2]?

What If I Choose To Believe In God?

Choosing to reject God has serious consequences. However, if we say that we believe in God, then there are some consequences that come with that as well.

Once again, let's allow Solomon to bring us back into the real world. Read each verse and list whatever consequences you can find that comes with believing in God.

ECCLESIASTES 12:1

This Means: _____

ECCLESIASTES 12:13

This Means: _____

ECCLESIASTES 11:9; 12:14

This Means: _____

ECCLESIASTES 11:10

This Means: _____

Choose the one word that best describes how you feel after reading these passages.



WHO IS AFFECTED BY MY CHOICE?

Does My Decision To Accept Or Reject God Really Change Anything?

