

Introduction:

1. Today, I'll deal with the question, "We all live under the sun, but **how** can we have life in the Son?"
2. The sunrise of our life under the sun is our physical **birth**, and the sunset is our physical **death**.
3. Our sunrise begins to **dim** after 50 years, and at 70 or 80, our sunset is near—depending on our physical and mental health (Psalm 90:10).
4. As Christians, we'll have a glorious sunset. Listen to this song. "Beyond the Sunset."
5. Here is a man who had a very **good** life under the sun, but he testified that, "It was meaningless," and he tells us why it was meaningless.

Text: Ecclesiastes 2:1-11, 17-20

6. With this testimony by King Solomon, let's go through my article under the Pastor's Corner that asks the question, "**What Defines Your Life?**"

What defines our life should **not** be our **life under the sun**, but **our life in the Son**, the sermon BIG IDEA, which I will expound with these questions:

First Question: How can we save our earthly life under the sun from being meaningless and make it meaningful?

1. The answer is found in Ecclesiastes 12:1, 13-14.
 - a. Why should we **remember** our Creator as early as our youth? (v. 1)
 - b. How do we **show** that we fear God? (v. 13)
 - c. What are we going to **account** to God for? (v. 14)
2. The Apostle John put it this way (1 John 2:15-17).
 - a. What is the **world** that we should not love? (vv. 15-16)
 - b. What is passing **away** and who will live **forever**? (v. 17)

Second Question: How do we get into Christ?

1. By faith we are **grafted** into Christ by the Father (Rom. 11:17-22).
 - a. This grafting into Christ by faith is our **conversion** to Christ.
 - b. Note that God is **both** kind and stern (v. 22).
 - c. God who is both kind and stern requires us to **continue** in His kindness (v. 23).
2. Christ gave us this **warning** in John 15:1-2.

Third question: What is our responsibility after we are grafted into Christ?

Christ answered this question in John 15:4-6.

- a. In verses 4-5, **remain** in Christ is the major responsibility we must choose to do, regardless of what we go through in life.
- b. Here are the **reasons** for remaining in Christ.
 - * In verse 4, for Christ to remain in us, He **requires** us to remain in Him.
 - * Still in verse 4, we must remain in Christ to bear **fruit**.
 - * In verse 5, apart from **Christ**, we can do nothing.
 - * In verse 6, if we don't remain in Christ, we will be thrown into the fire and **burned**.

Fourth Question: What did Jesus promise if we choose to remain in Him? (John 15:7-14)

1. In verse 7, **answers** to our prayers.
 - a. This is the first principle for prayer that **gets** results.
 - b. If we remain in Christ and asks whatever is according to God's **will**, it will be given to us.
2. In verse 8, bearing **fruit** for God's glory is a promise if we remain in Christ.
 - a. The **proof** of being Christ's disciple is bearing fruit for the glory of God.
 - b. The proof of being Christ's disciple is more than **knowing** the will of God, it is **doing** the will of God to bear fruit to the glory of the Father.
 - c. The fruit that **glorifies** the Father the most is our Christ-like life in our character and conduct.
3. In verses 9-11, have the joy of Christ to **complete** our joy which is also a promise, if we remain Christ.
 - a. There is no joy that can complete our joy except the **joy** of Christ in us.
 - b. Whatever we have and whatever we do to bring us joy is not complete without **Christ's** joy in us.
4. In verses 12-14, **friendship** with Jesus who laid down His life for us, is the best friendship we could ever have.

Conclusion:

TABLETALK

Pick what is most relevant to you from the sermon and the Pastor's Corner and do group discussion and application.