



INTRODUCTION

The world is full of authorities, some of which are ungodly. Ecclesiastes tells us how the wise live in such a world.

INSTRUCTIONS

This guide is meant to facilitate discussion which will lead to a response to God's word. Therefore, please use it as tool that best fits the needs of your community group.

OPENING DISCUSSION

- Read **Ecclesiastes 8:1-9**
- What do you find interesting/compelling/confusing about this passage?

REVIEW

- How does wisdom change our countenance according to v1?
- Review the ways the wise deal with authority in vv2-5?
- What is the "oath" in v2?
- What do we not know according to verse 8? How does that instruct us how to live?

APPLICATION

- Do you have difficulty in obeying or honoring authority? Why?
- Have you had an experience with a person in authority over you in which "power corrupted"? How did you handle that situation? Did you get bitter and complain to God that it was unfair?
- What are some way that the Christian be the model citizen?
- Should Christians seek to change our culture? In other words, is cultural reform part of our calling? How should the church seek to impact our culture?
- Pray for authorities in your life and your response to them.

PRAYER (divide the group based on gender if desired)

- What action/repentance does God want you to take according to the truths of this text?
- Are there any other prayer need