

Creekside Community Church
"Enjoying Life in an Uncertain World," The Book of Ecclesiastes
August 9, 2015
John Bruce - Pastor

Taking Worship Seriously
(Ecclesiastes 5:1-7)

A. **How We Come to God** (Eccl. 5:1)

B. **How We Talk to God** (Eccl. 5:2-3)

C. **What We Promise God** (Eccl. 5:4-7)

For further thought and discussion:

Getting Started

1. What was helpful to you in this week's sermon? What didn't you understand?
2. What is consumerism? How does consumerism affect American culture? How does consumerism affect the church in America? How is authentic worship a powerful antidote to consumerism?

Going Deeper

3. Please read Ecclesiastes 5:1. Why do you think Solomon addresses the subject of worship in his discussion of life under the sun? According to Solomon, how and why do we come to God? What insights do the following verses provide about "the sacrifice of fools?" (Prov. 15:8, 21:3, Hosea 6:6) What would Eccl. 5:1 mean for the Jews of Solomon's time? What does it mean for Christians today? Do you think this verse applies to us or not? Why?
4. Please read Ecclesiastes 5:2-3. Is Solomon telling us *not* to pray or *how* to pray? How would you reconcile vs. 2 with Philippians 4:7-8? What then is Solomon saying about how to talk with God? What do you think vs. 3 means?
5. Please read Ecclesiastes 5:4-7. What is Solomon warning us about in these verses? (See also Numbers 30:2 and Psalm 15:4) Why is it better not to vow or promise God anything than to not keep our promises? How do these verses apply today? Have you ever made promises to God?
6. Solomon summarizes this passage comparing self-centered or consumer worship with God-centered worship in vs. 7 with "Rather fear God." What does fearing God mean in the context of real worship?

Application

What is one lesson you've learned from this passage which you will apply this week? How will you apply it?