



# “Carpe Diem?”

Ecclesiastes 3

## LISTEN

*Record your insights and observations from this week’s sermon:*

## SHARE

Can you think of a movie you’ve seen recently that depicts a secular or a sub-Christian worldview? Is it depicted positively or negatively?

---

---

---

---

## REFLECT

- a) Read Ecclesiastes 3.
  
- b) In Mike’s sermon this week, he talked about the fact that everyone has a worldview. What is meant by “world-view”?  

---

---

---

---
  
- c) The poem in Ecclesiastes 3:1-8 is very beautiful. But the beauty of the poem can distract you from its overall message. What is that message?  

---

---

---

---
  
- d) What is the “burden” or “business” that the writer says God has laid on people in vs. 10?  

---

---

---

---

e) How do you read vss. 11-12 – as words of resignation (“Eat, drink, and be merry, for tomorrow we die”), as an affirmation of joy in the little things of life (“Carpe diem”) – or both?

---

---

---

---

---

f) Is the “carpe diem” approach to life valid for a Christian? If so, how? If not, why not?

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

**APPLY**

a) Francis Schaeffer reportedly said that if he had an hour to talk to someone about Jesus Christ, he would take the first 45 minutes to explain the hopelessness of the human situation. Only after that would he share Jesus as the answer. What do you think about that approach to evangelism, and how does it relate to Ecclesiastes?

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

b) If, after reading Ecclesiastes 3, you could have a conversation with the author, what might you say to help him look at life differently?

---

---

---

---

---

c) Verse 4 says that there is “a time to weep and a time to laugh, a time to mourn and a time to dance.” Romans 12:15 tells us to “Rejoice with those who rejoice; mourn with those who mourn.” Is there someone in your circle of friends and acquaintances who is celebrating a birthday, anniversary, promotion, or other blessing? Is there someone you know who is mourning a death or some other loss? Think of how you might laugh or weep with one of these friends.

---

---

---

**PRAY**

a) Pray for our high school students and their leaders as they travel to London this week on a mission trip. Pray that God will open doors to show the love of Christ to many people. Pray for safe travel and a flexible, loving spirit within the group.

b) Ask God to create at UPC a heart of compassion for people who have yet to discover the joys of a Christian worldview.

c) Pray for our new Assistant to the Pastor, Seth Hammond, as he prepares for licensure in August.