

Your Portion in Life
19th in “The Good Life” Series
Ecclesiastes 9:7-10 p. 558
June 4, 2017

Introduction

In this passage God commands his creatures, and especially his church, to enjoy his creation.

The Text: Ecclesiastes 9:7-10

1) God wants you to enjoy your life in every way – and yes, this is biblical (vv. 7-8).

2) God wants you to have and experience the fullness of marital love (vv. 9-10).

Ten gospel-driven suggestions for a healthy marriage:

1) Marriage needs repentance.

2) Marriage needs the habits of the gospel.

3) Marriage needs an allergy to the ways Satan wants to undermine your relationship.

4) Marriage needs the hard work of relationship building.

5) Marriage needs ears that listen for understanding.

6) Marriage needs honesty about sin.

7) *Marriage needs teachability and humility.*

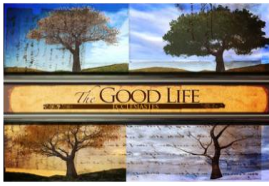
8) *Marriage needs to be built around a good church.*

9) *Marriage needs the support of others.*

10) *Marriage needs a constant application of grace and acceptance.*

Response

- Look at “your portion in life” and enjoy it!



Small Group Questions for Ecclesiastes 9:7-10

June 4, 2017

Pastor Mickey Klink

- 1) Read the text aloud and discuss together any significant observations or issues needing clarification.
- 2) Which better represents the opinion of people regarding the lifestyle Christianity expects from its followers: (a) a life of rules and “no’s” or (b) a life of fun and pleasure? Explain why.
- 3) The word “go” in v. 7 makes this passage a command and not simply a suggestion. Why would God command his people to enjoy life and have fun? Does that surprise you?
- 4) Notice the details described in vv. 7-8. How does food and meals become a wonderful means to enjoy and celebrate life?
- 5) Did the reference to “wine” make you uncomfortable (no, it’s not referring to grape juice!)? After acknowledging that Scripture prohibits drunkenness (Eph 5:18) and expects the young to obey the law (Rom 13:1-2), what is a healthy approach to the use and enjoyment of alcohol?
- 6) The “white garments” and “oil” in v. 8 could refer either to materials that add comfort (e.g., for hot weather) or style (e.g., fancy garments). What do these instructions tell you about the kind of life God wants you to live and enjoy?
- 7) God specifically encourages us to have a marriage that is full of love and joy in v. 9. How important is a healthy and fun marriage?
- 8) What qualities would you give to describe a healthy and fun marriage? How does your marriage compare to the qualities you listed?
- 9) Since marriage is used in Scripture as an analogy for the gospel, how does a healthy and fun marriage reflect the gospel (i.e., God’s grace, love, and sacrifice)?
- 10) How might this passage encourage you to live with “your portion in life” (v. 9) in a more appreciative and enjoyable way?

Further study this week: Ps 104 on the beauty of creation (Mon); Ps 23 on blessings from the Lord (Tues); Gal 5:1-15 on Christian freedom (Wed); Gen 2:4-25 on Marriage (Thurs); Eph 5:22-33 on marriage and the gospel (Fri).