

# what's the point?



**Pastor Clay Smith**

**Busy, Successful, and Empty**

*Ecclesiastes 1:1-11*

Vanity = \_\_\_\_\_,  
\_\_\_\_\_, and \_\_\_\_\_

The \_\_\_\_\_ is \_\_\_\_\_.

Our \_\_\_\_\_ are never  
\_\_\_\_\_.

The \_\_\_\_\_ is \_\_\_\_\_.

## What's the Point?

We were made to \_\_\_\_\_ than this  
world \_\_\_\_\_.

**January 11, 2026**

## Discussion Questions

1. When you hear the "Preacher" say, 'vanity of vanities,' (1:2) what modern experiences in life feel most like vapor to you: work, schedules, relationships, or accomplishments?
2. Ecclesiastes 1 repeats the word *hevel* (vanity) again and again. Why do you think Solomon chooses to begin the book with such strong, repetitive language?
3. How would you summarize the logic of verses 4-11? What 'evidence' is Solomon giving to support his claim in verse 2?
4. The passage describes endless cycles in nature. In what areas does your life feel like you're moving fast but not really arriving anywhere?
5. What do you think Solomon means by the phrase 'under the sun'? How does that expression shape the way we read the rest of the book?
6. Do you agree with Solomon that there is 'nothing new under the sun'? How have new opportunities or experiences still left you with the same deeper questions?
7. If you could ask God one question about the point of life, what would it be; and how could your group help you keep paying attention to that ache for meaning?