



The Pursuit of Pleasure

Ecclesiastes 2:1-11, Psalms 16:11, 2 Timothy 3:1-5

Pleasure

- **Solomon pursued many different avenues of pleasure.**
- **He followed the hedonistic philosophy of life.**
- **He extracted pleasure from every avenue of life, which always ended meaningless.**
- **The pure pursuit of pleasure alone is meaningless.**
- **As we grow older, we learn that all those things that we pursue end up less than satisfying.**
- **If we pursue something too hard and too long, we actually may damage our ability to find pleasure in anything.**

Overstimulation

- **The younger generation has overstimulated their brains which limits their ability to experience any long-term pleasure.**
- **We have overstimulated our brain so much that we are not able to experience pleasure to the degree in which we were meant.**
- **Each of us have a place in our brain that is responsible for helping us to feel pleasure when it is stimulated.**
- **Our children are being raised in a world with the potential for stimulation 24 hours a day, 7 days a week.**
- **Constant over-stimulation destroys our ability to achieve any sense of pleasure.**

Become Lovers of God

- **We must become lovers of God rather than lovers of pleasure.**
- **We must destroy the idols that we have made in our lives.**
- **We do not have to stop pursuing pleasure, but we need to reverse things and make God our highest form of pleasure.**
- **Real sin is being satisfied with the things in the world when God wants to offer us so much more.**

Real Pleasure

- **When we pursue God with heart, soul, mind, and strength, we will begin to find real pleasure in life.**
- **When we pursue God, we will view the pleasures of this earth not as idols but as gifts from Him.**
- **As God opens pathways to pleasure, we will experience things that are not only valid here but valid into the life to come.**
- **As we pursue a relationship with Jesus Christ, we truly begin to tap into the eternal pleasures of God.**

Conclusion

- **Where do you find your greatest pleasure in this world?**
- **If you find more pleasure in anything in life other than what you find in God, you have idols in your life that need to be destroyed.**
- **As you begin to find pleasure in God, you will experience not only the temporary pleasures of life, but the eternal pleasures made available through Jesus Christ.**