

YOU DO NOT KNOW THE WORK OF GOD

Ecclesiastes 11:1-6

Oakridge Community Church

Questions for Consideration and Discussion

Introduction:

1. Unknowns and uncertainties in life - Ecclesiastes 3:11; 6:12
2. Ecclesiastes 11:2, 5, 6

I. **ACT PATIENTLY** 11:1

A. The action

B. The picture

1. Charitable activity?
 - a. Deuteronomy 15:7-8; Proverbs 14:31
 - b. Proverbs 19:17; 22:9
2. Business venture – 1 Kings 10:22

C. The point

II. **ACT PRUDENTLY** 11:2

A. There are inevitabilities in life – 11:3

B. Nothing can be accomplished when paralyzed by fear – 11:4

III. **ACT YIELDEDLY** 11:5

A. There are many unknowns in our lives

B. Yield submissively to the God who knows

IV. **ACT DILIGENTLY** 11:6

A. You do not know the outcome of your ventures

B. So take advantage of every opportunity

Conclusion

You Do Not Know the Work of God

Ecclesiastes 11:1-6

1. What unknowns or uncertainties in life have been affecting you lately? What is your usual response when dealing with unknowns and uncertainties?
2. Does God expect you to be active or passive in your approach to life? What evidence in Scripture leads you to the answer you gave? Does what Scripture teaches call for change in your life? How will you implement that change?
3. What ventures in your life are your biggest tests of patience? What factors cause you to be impatient and anxious in those ventures? How will you develop the habit of acting patiently?
4. Would you rather experience loss and failure because of your own carelessness, laziness or fear, or because of unavoidable circumstances that are completely out of your control? Why?
5. Why should a follower of Christ be eager to act yieldedly with reference to God? What factors hinder such yieldedness? How can those factors be overcome? What role does the Gospel have in overcoming those factors?
6. How much does the fear of failure affect you? How is the fear of failure typically evidenced in your life? What is genuine failure? What is true success? How does the world's perspective of success and failure differ from God's perspective?