

Cast Your Bread Upon the Water

August 23, 2026

Main Passage: Ecclesiastes 11:1-10

Theological Theme

Enjoy the days God has gifted you, for we are not guaranteed tomorrow.

Introduction

- ❓ When you hear the phrase, “carpe diem,” what comes to mind?
- ❓ How are we to seize the day as followers of Christ?

1. Send Your Bread (Ecclesiastes 11:1-2)

Like many Proverbs, this passage of Solomon advises prudent living. We may not always think of biblical wisdom in this category, but it takes money to live in our world today, and financial generosity ensures that the ministry of the church thrives and grows.

- ❓ What point did Solomon make in this verse?
- ❓ The heading in the CSB Study Bible titles this section “INVEST IN LIFE.” What do you think it means to invest in life?
- ❓ What does it look like to make wise financial investments today? What are some tools to help with this? Why is it important that we keep our focus on the Lord as we pursue investment?

2. You Don't Know (Ecclesiastes 11:3-6)

We don't know what tomorrow will bring. Solomon named some events in nature that can give a clue as to what the future will bring but still are no guaranteed. Dark clouds often bring rain. But as we know well today, the forecast, even predicted by educated and experienced experts, can change on dime.

- ❓ What was Solomon exhorting his readers toward in these verses?
- ❓ How does understanding that we don't know what tomorrow will bring shape the way we live today?
- ❓ Where has God called you to work and invest, even though you don't know what the outcome will be?

3. Let Him Rejoice (Ecclesiastes 11:7-10)

Remember Ecclesiastes main theme of the temporary nature our existence? In our first week of this study, we talked about how life on earth is short—like a puff of breath on a cold morning, here one minute and gone the next. Solomon explored the idea of how we should spend the time we are blessed with on earth, and arrived at this conclusion: Enjoy the time you have and fear the Lord.

- ❓ What was Solomon's point in these verses?
- ❓ How is living life to the fullest connected to faithfulness to Christ?
- ❓ Where can you recognize God's gifts in your current season of life and not only long for another time—whether past or future?

Conclusion

- ❓ How are we called to manage our money as believers? Why does God care about this?
- ❓ How is the call to live to the fullest for Christians different than what the world might believe?
- ❓ How does living wisely lead us to share Jesus with others?