

# *Blur*

## *“Savoring Time”*

### PREPARATION

- Familiarize yourself with this Study Guide.
- If you missed it, watch the sermon online [HERE](#).
- Spend some time in prayer before your group gathers.
- As a leader you **always** have the option to select the material that is relevant for your group

### DISCUSSION

#### **Opening Prayer:** (1-5 minutes)

*In light of what God is saying through this week’s message, here’s some suggestions of how your group can invite God into your time together.*

Father, SLOW US DOWN! As we seek to listen and obey the Lord, pray that God would teach us how to savor our time on this earth. Pray that the Lord would continue to give us vision of eternity with Him while challenging us to savor each moment that He has prepared for us.

Finally, pray that we would abide in Him as we continue to learn how to live for Christ restricted by time on this earth!

#### **Discussion:** (30 minutes)

#### What’s Going on This Week

This Sunday, Pastor Danny led us into the second week of our series titled *Blur*. Pastor Danny focused our attention on Ecclesiastes 1—3 in order to begin a conversation about how we ought to savor each moment that is in front of us on this earth. Pastor Danny uses the scripture to challenge us to set our vision on eternally good things while savoring each moment that God presents us on the way to realizing eternity

**“God has given you a vision for greatness because he wants you to follow an eternal trajectory with childlike faith.”– Pastor Danny Strange**

## Suggested Questions

**Check-In:** Review *Ephesians 5:15-21*: Last week, the conversation revolved around refocusing our time commitments in order to step into the opportunities that God has given us to draw closer to Him and to love others on this earth. As you evaluate your previous week, were you able to steward your time well with the opportunities God presented you? How did time restraints play a factor in your encounters with Jesus?

- *Read Ecclesiastes 3:9-11; John 3:16; Colossians 3:23-25; Philipians 3:7-14; 1 Peter 4:7-11*: Pastor Danny uses the short passage in Ecclesiastes to demonstrate how humans can foresee greatness in their own futures because God has set eternity into our hearts. The following passages are examples of how Paul and Peter transformed their entire purpose on this earth because their mind was set on the greatness of eternity spent with God. What are the great things that you envision doing in this season of life and in your future? How does the prospect of eternal punishment / eternal life with God dramatically influence the way you choose to invest the time you have left on this earth?
- *Read Ecclesiastes 1:12—2:26; John 15:1-17*: Even though God has given each of us a vision of greatness for the future, we often try to realize this greatness through earthly pursuits. This type of greatness ultimately fades away! Pastor Danny illustrates this point by alluding to King Solomon's endless pursuit of pleasure, wisdom, and work on this earth. Famously, Solomon comes to the realization that it is all meaningless. What aspect of greatness have you chased after in the past or are you chasing after right now and what do you believe are the purposes of that pursuit? How does the John 15 passage challenge you to rethink your pursuits and change the way you live on a day-to-day basis?
- *Read Ecclesiastes 2:24-25, 3:12-14, 5:18-20, 8:14-15, 9:7-10, 12:9-14; 2 Corinthians 4:16-18*: Pastor Danny concludes his sermon by challenging us to live with our **vision** in eternity and our **heart** in each moment in order to savor the immediate moments God puts in front of us. How do you need to shift your **vision** or your **heart** in order to align with Pastor Danny's challenge? In what specific ways can we begin to pray for your eyes and your heart to see God in the present and in your future throughout the week?

**Closing Prayer: (5-15 minutes)**

*In light of what God is saying through this week's message, here's some suggestions of what your group could talk about with God in prayer.*

Thank our Heavenly Father for sending Jesus to die on the cross for our sins and raising from the grave so that we may have eternal life! Pray that the Holy Spirit would continue to teach us how to savor our time in light of the fact that eternity with or without God is an urgent reality as our time on earth grows shorter and shorter. Finally, pray that God would give us vision to live for eternity and the presence of mind to enjoy each moment along the way.

**THROUGHOUT THE WEEK**

**- Find out how to pray for two people in your group this week!** Follow up with two people in your group and offer them encouragement them to slow down and draw near to God!

**-Keep track of your vision of the future and your heart for the present moment!** Reflect on which of these needs adjustment in your life and what spiritual disciplines help you bring clarity in these two categories.

**-Pray and Fast for 3Crosses Community Groups on TUESDAYS!** Continue to remind yourself that fasting is to long for our heavenly home, loosen the grip of sin, express a need to God, and anticipate God's movement! It is a great reminder that our time is short on this earth and God is calling us to steward our time well!

**- Sign-Up for a Community Group! The Season begins September 22<sup>nd</sup>!** If you have any questions, feel free to email AJ at [avanegas@3crosses.org](mailto:avanegas@3crosses.org)