

# THE COUNSELOR

A PUBLICATION FOR PARENTS, COUNSELORS, & CHURCHES . PROVIDED BY STEPHEN ROSSI, M.A., L.P.C.

May 2010

## Young Adults' Quest for



## *the Meaning of Life*

### Longing for **Purpose and Direction**

*Who* am I? Where did I come from? Why am I here? What am I supposed to do with my life? We all strive for the answers to these questions at some point in our lives. Young adults especially (18-30 year olds), and sometimes older teenagers struggle with these questions as they begin moving forward with their lives, as they become more independent. If you are one of those young people searching for answers, I pray that this article encourages you.

Many of you are searching. You long to know your purpose and place in this world. You yearn for direction as you embark on your journey to understand the meaning of life. What's life all about and what do you do with it? You know the world we live in. You are more informed than ever. You communicate through the internet with each other

and keep up with the latest events. You see the world falling down around you. You live in troubled times as you mistrust those in authority who have misused their power and betrayed you and the confidences of the American people. You have heard the promises of politicians and government leaders. You don't trust authority. You see the corruption, wars, lies, inconsistencies, and wrongdoing in the world today. You want to do something about it, but what, and how? Many of you experience futility, pessimism, isolation, loneliness, sadness, depression, and anxiety over your life and the current state of this world. Some of you are consumed with worry about your future. Christians go deeper as they try to figure out and live a life that fulfills their purpose for being here. They look to God for answers and direction. Oftentimes they struggle with their faith in God and pursuit for the real meaning of life. You may be one

of them. You feel the urgency of going deeper and reaching out to your peers especially in this quest for meaning in a dying world. You are passionate about helping others as you yourselves try drawing nearer to God. Many non-Christian young adults delve into philosophies, humanistic thinking, and various religions for answers to their life's questions. Sometimes Christians wander off the path into these areas too as they pursue absolute truth and meaning. Many of you are vulnerable in your dire quest for meaning and direction, to fall into cults. You want to understand the deeper things of God in these last days.

Many of you start out sincere, idealistic, and zealous for new insights, direction, and approaches to life. So many young adults today are very disappointed and frustrated at their baby boomer generation parents for making these worldwide problems worse. You see the vanity of this life, you look at things and know you will be taking your place in a few years. You want to resist the inevitable trouble in your lives now and ahead. Many of you are drawn into profound philosophical and religious debates over these issues.

Why work and toil and die? What is the meaning of life with all this evil and heartache? It's hard not to have a pessimistic view of life. So we live and die, is that it? Futility. You have a burning desire to really know who you are, why you're here and where you're going. Many philosophers, theologians, and great religious people have tried to answer these questions down through the ages.

## **A Wiseman's Words**

King Solomon, the wisest man that ever lived, wrote Ecclesiastes, a book in the Bible that addresses the meaning of life. He wrote this profound book during the end of his life as he reflected on his accomplishments and observations. Solomon's Book of Ecclesiastes is a letter of teaching, preaching, warning, and encouragement especially to young adults. He addresses the hard, age-old questions of meaning, purpose and direction in life. Solomon describes the meaning of life "under the sun", under Heaven, without God. His conclusions predated the coming Messiah, (Yeshua HaMashiach), Jesus Christ, and offer invaluable insights and direction on living a Godly life in a fallen world, full of strife, changes, vanity, futility, pain, suffering, unanswered questions, evil, and death. Ecclesiastes presents

life as it is under the sun. Solomon presents the inevitable realities of this life which seems pessimistic when examined, but we must remember as Christians that Jesus Christ made it possible for us to have eternal life. Our King of Glory also gives us meaning and power to live this life victoriously!

Many of the following statements come from Mark A Copeland's Sermons on Ecclesiastes.<sup>1</sup>



### **Ecclesiastes - Solomon's observations, teachings, and conclusions:**

- **Life from an earthly perspective is futile. All is vanity. (Ecc. 1:2)**
- **Life is meaningless (under the sun) - like grasping the wind. (Ecc. 1:14)**
- **Nothing seems to satisfy. (Ecc. 1:8)**
- **There is nothing new under the sun. (Ecc.1:9)**
- **Human wisdom is futile. (Ecc. 1:17)**
- **Human wisdom and knowledge provides much grief and sorrow. (Ecc.1:18)**
- **The wiser you are and the more you know brings greater awareness - grief and sorrow.**
- **We become burdened as we learn many things in life.**
- **More worry over what we cannot control creeps in.**
- **Fun, pleasure, wine, folly, wealth, accomplishments - all vanity. (Ecc. 2:1-2;2:11)**
- **Solomon despaired over all his labor. (Ecc. 2:20-23)**
- **What do we have in the end for all our efforts: nothing, vanity.**
- **A man should enjoy the good in his labor.(Ecc. 2:24;3:12-13,22; 5:18-19; 8:15; 9:7 9)**
- **It is a gift from God to enjoy our labor. (Ecc. 2:24)**
- **None of us can really enjoy life without God. (Ecc. 2:25)**
- **God gives wisdom, knowledge, and joy**

- to those good in His sight. (Ecc. 2:26)
- God has a divine purpose for all things. All things serve God. (Ecc. 3:1-8)
- "To everything there is a season, a time for every purpose under heaven."
- God puts that search for meaning and understanding God in our hearts. (Ecc.3:9-11)
- Injustices, oppression, wickedness, prospering, all work is vanity. (Ecc. 3:16, 4:13)
- We should walk prudently with careful thought to what we do. (Ecc. 5:1)
- Don't be shocked by the oppression of the poor and distortion of justice. (Ecc. 5:8)
- The day of judgment will come.
- We can never be satisfied with riches. We will always want more. (Ecc. 5:10-17)
- Everyone will eventually lose all their riches. Enjoy your wealth. (Ecc. 6:1-2)
- Wealth cannot satisfy your soul. (Ecc. 6:7-9)
- The answer to life can never be found in striving for riches. (Ecc. 6:12)
- Honor is better than luxury. (Ecc. 7:1)
- Our day of death is better than our birthday. (Ecc. 7:1)
- Sorrow is better than laughter - funerals help us make positive changes.
- The end is better than the beginning. (Ecc. 7:8)
- Patience is better than pride. (Ecc. 7:8-9)
- The present is better than the past. (Ecc. 7:10)
- Wisdom is better than wealth. (Ecc. 7:11-12)
- Acceptance is better than resentment. (Ecc. 7:13-14)
- There are things we cannot change. (Ecc. 7:13)
- Do things with self-control. (Ecc. 7:15-22)
- Watch out for extremes, they can cause problems.
- Don't hold back from true righteousness and wisdom.
- We should still fear God. (Ecc. 7:18)
- No one is perfect. (Ecc. 7:20)
- Do not believe everything people say. (Ecc. 7:21)
- Fear of God is the key to true knowledge and pleasing God. (Ecc. 8:12)
- Wisdom is better than strength. (Ecc. 9:13-18)
- Wisdom alone is not the answer, cannot answer all questions. (Ecc.7:23-29)
- There are things too deep to know.
- It is hard to find good people. (Ecc. 7:27)
- Solomon gives some wisdom for enduring life's vanities. (Ecc. 8:1-9-9:18)
- Submit to authorities for God's sake.
- Obey the king and respect his power. (Ecc. 8:2-3)
- You should not be harmed if you respect his power. (Ecc. 8:4-5)
- Rebellion will not alleviate your misery. (Ecc. 8:5-9)
- Judgment will eventually come to evil rulers. (Ecc. 8:11)
- It is still better to fear God. (Ecc. 8:12-13)
- We should enjoy life and the fruits of our labor. (Ecc. 8:15)
- Death will come to us all, the righteous and the wicked. (Ecc. 9:1-3)
- Enjoy life, you will die someday, enjoy your wife and work hard. (Ecc. 9:7-10)
- Expect the unexpected - Time and chance happens to all. (Ecc. 9:11)
- We are less likely to be overwhelmed when we expect the unexpected.
- You will not always be rich, fed, and favored if you are skillful, wise and understanding.
- Wisdom is better than strength and weapons of war. (Ecc. 9:16-18)
- Despite the certainty of death we can live joyful lives.
- Folly is harmful and tarnishes the finest reputations. (Ecc. 10:1)
- Fools don't know how to restrain themselves.
- Folly and wisdom affect a nation. (Ecc. 10:16-19)
- There is value in giving. (Ecc. 11:1-2)
- Giving encourages kindness and hospitality.
- It also provides blessing for the future and when the days are evil.
- Lessons from Solomon's experience especially to the young. (Ecc. 11:9-12:7)
- Don't waste years running after things that don't satisfy.
- Rejoice in your youth. (Ecc. 11:9) God wants you to have a good time.

- **Be joyful, do things that are pleasing but don't lose sight of the judgment.**
- **For you will give an account to God.**
- **Remove sorrow and evil from your heart, it deprives you from joy.**
- **Remove youthful recklessness, this produces much sorrow.**
- **Remember God in your youth.**
- **You can avoid many things that bring sorrow. Prepare for the dark days ahead by serving God in your youth. (Ecc. 11:8)**
- **Times of affliction and sadness are ahead when you grow old. (Ecc. 12:1-2)**
- **Great conclusion, "Fear God and keep His commandments." (Ecc. 12:13-14)**

## Tribulations

Young adults experience considerable, confusion, frustration, anger, and disappointment today in their journey to find the answers to these profound questions. Christians and non-Christians alike, struggle to understand and pursue meaningful lives in a changing world, in these end times. You often wander down many rabbit trails pursuing the truth. You come up with more questions than answers



about the meaning of this life. Oftentimes Christian young adults go through very dry and challenging periods in their faith. Inconsistencies abound as they try to figure this life out even through the eyes of their Christian faith. You search the scriptures for the answers. You chat on line with each other about the deeper things in life and the deteriorating world we live in. You pour out your hearts and open your minds to seek God's truth and direction on life, death, love, relationships, salvation, prophecy, and living in the last days before Christ's return. There is much dispute and controversy over these topics. You talk about the rapture, salvation, evil, and the devil. The atmosphere is charged and mixed with anger, fear, worry, and desperation. You have the additional challenges of figuring out where to go to college, what to major in, and which future career, while you are exposed to different ideologies, philosophies, and value systems. There are many types of situations you can get into as you embark on this difficult journey. There are many challenges

and problems during young adulthood.

The tribulations of young adulthood are often magnified in college. Many of you will go through considerable changes in your thinking as you enter academia during a time of considerable independence and freedom. Some of you are prone to experiment in many areas like never before. Some good and many times bad, depending on your foundation, environmental pressures, and unique struggles. This formative time period in your lives occurs while you are impressionable and more easily influenced to go in directions that cause pain and hardship. Be careful not to be lured into sexual relationships, pornography, and liberal thinking. Experimentation with these new ways and ideas takes its toll on people. They begin to experience firsthand what Solomon described as vanity of all vanities as they try to examine and experience life more fully. Many young adults slip into that emptiness as they find that all these new found freedoms including, drugs, sex, and other "enlightening" experiences enslave them, bringing more problems than solutions. It is good to question and learn, so you move out and investigate this life for good reasons and causes. Quite often young people move away from God in their pursuits. Does this sound familiar (Solomon)?

They hit that existential crisis Solomon did. Young adults look intently for the answers to life "under the sun," only to find emptiness, meaninglessness, despair and hopelessness. Many who were weak or marginal in their walk with Christ, fall away and pierce themselves with many grief's. Life does not make sense. Bad things happen to good people, the world is full of suffering and dying, the wicked prevail over the righteous, injustice abounds. Many young people are zealous to change the world and begin to run into road blocks everywhere. You argue and protest, and even try to fight the good fight, but seem to get thwarted at every turn. Many give up and fall into despair, and become pessimistic about life, they lose their witness. Young adults (eighteen to thirty years old) face tremendous struggles. Many of you have serious questions concerning the existence of God, which sometimes generates anger, often directed toward yourselves and others. You experience a deep spiritual void and intense emotional pain over the meaninglessness of life. Sometimes this leads to depression, suicidal thinking, or violent behavior. You are searching for answers to a troubled self in a troubled world.

## Lessons

Every generation of young adults hears their parents and elders warn them about the consequences of poor choices that lie ahead. We try to impart wisdom, warnings, and right living to our children from an early age. We are commissioned by God to "train up our children." We don't want to see you make the same mistakes we did, but you do, just like we did when our parents warned us. It does not have to be this way, but it is. Why didn't Solomon listen to his father David? Why didn't Solomon do what he knew was right? He fell away. He got carried away with this life and drifted from what he had been taught and knew to be true. The things of God. He did not learn the lessons his father taught him until it was very late. It looks like he repented at the end of his life for his rebellion against God, indulging in many wives and their idols. We should learn from Solomon's life. We should heed the good advice from our Godly parents. Each generation of young adults believes their ways are better, so they step out to blaze their own trail, often making the same mistakes their parents did and warned them about. Why are we so hard-headed? Our sin natured self betrays us as we launch out searching for the meaning of life and our place in this world.



Young adults today will learn lessons the hard way unless they allow themselves to seriously reflect on their parent's wise advice and God's counsel as laid out in His Holy Bible. God uses the Book of Ecclesiastes to teach us lessons so we don't have to repeat the same failures. It will go well with you to learn the easy way rather than experience future hardships. Sometimes we have to experience things for ourselves. Fine. But not always, and certainly not on the big things in life. The reward for taking Godly counsel to heart is great. Pride gives way to submission and humility. The Godly man overcomes.

Young adults, please consider acting on the wisdom imparted by your parents and elders. You can avoid much pain ahead. Try to learn life's lessons without causing yourself hardships. Trust God. See life for what it is from an earthly perspective but live as a Christian, fearing and trusting God. Learn from your mistakes. Don't repeat them.

**Lessons from Solomon.** Life is empty from an earthly perspective without God. Nothing on this earth will ever satisfy us. Nothing is new, everything repeats, like an endless cycle. The more we know and the wiser we are, the greater our understanding which brings sorrow. Power, prestige, wealth, possessions, and accomplishments are really meaningless and can never satisfy our souls. This does not mean we should not strive for a better life but that we should not expect that better life to make us happy. We should enjoy working. We really cannot enjoy life without God. The world is full of wickedness and injustice but that will end too. Everyone and every deed will be judged. We can never find the answer in life by striving for riches. Patience is better than pride. Wisdom is good but cannot answer all questions. There will always be things we cannot understand or change. No one is perfect. We should not believe everything people say. True knowledge comes from fearing God. Unless the authorities ask you to do something ungodly, submit to them for God's sake. We should enjoy the fruits of our labor. We are not in control, so don't become overwhelmed when the unexpected occurs. We should expect the unexpected. We should enjoy this life even though we know we will eventually die. It is good to give. So give. God will honor your giving. Don't spend years chasing things that won't satisfy you. Enjoy your youth. Don't be sorrowful and evil minded, it steals your joy. Don't be reckless, it will cause you much pain. Serve God in your youth. Fear God and keep His commandments.

## Meaning and Direction

My heart goes out to all young adults searching for the truth. I admire you for tenaciously looking for answers to the hard questions about this life and your purpose. Reconsider looking at those who came before you, like King David and Solomon and other great people of the Bible. These men knew that a life apart from God is not a life at all. It is not only meaningless apart from God, but destructive, those who pursue ungodly living and reject Jesus Christ, will spend eternity separated from God in the next life....And the next life comes to us all. Don't leave God out of your pursuit for meaning. Put Him in the center of all your questions. He has the answers, solutions, and power for you to live an overcoming life in Him.

We live in a fallen world. No one is perfect. We all have fallen short of God. So, the answers to life and the power to live it effectively and victoriously no matter what, can never come from us. We are sinful and limited in our understanding and actions. Quests for meaning and direction will always lead you astray when Christ is not involved. The Bible, Holy Trinity, Jesus Christ, and God's Plan are facts. God still stands after all the discussions and debates, whether people believe it or not.

Jesus said, "I am the way the truth and the life." (John 14:6). He is the complete answer to every question --- He is the Final Word. He came so we could have meaning. Jesus' direct quotes about life in Him recorded in the Gospels provide all the meaning, purpose, and direction you will ever need. We were created to worship and depend on Him. Everything has meaning in this life when we are saved by Him and remain rightly related to Him. He has specific plans for every individual created and gives them free will to accomplish His purposes. This is a deep subject and we don't have to know all the answers, but that is how it works. God is all knowing, all powerful and purposeful. It is important to believe that He exists and that He loves you and has made it possible for you to have victory in any situation in this life and everlasting peace in the next life with Him. Jesus is the fulfillment of everything good. The pessimistic existential crisis described in Solomon's Ecclesiastes is resolved and brought to the highest level with Christ. Yes, we are to fear God and obey His commandments but we are also invited to live with Him eternally through His salvation and saving grace. We are promised a glorious future with Him by accepting Him now. That's meaning, direction, and purpose!

You are here on this earth to glorify God and enjoy Him forever! God put you here to use the gifts and talents He gave you to accomplish His purposes. Jesus told us in His Great Commission (Matt. 28:19). We are to go make disciples of every nation. We are supposed to be about the business of winning souls for Christ. This is done by living your life as a light to the world, witnessing directly and indirectly to people with our lives.

There will always be death and hardship in this life "under the sun." Yes, we will die or get raptured. We must live every day as it were our last for Him. God will reveal the specifics of your life, what career, wife to marry, how to talk to people about Him as you trust and obey Him. He answers your

prayers. He intercedes for you. Christian young adults, stay on track with the Lord. Don't waiver. Don't linger in those "dark nights of the soul" too long doubting your faith. Return to Him even when you feel lost, confused, and pained by your circumstances. Those moments will come. Don't be swayed by anyone who claims to have the special answers or "revelations" of God without testing the spirits (1 John 4:1). Save yourself the heartache of following "blind guides" and wolves in sheep's clothing. Beware of those who preach love but hate their Christian brothers and sisters. Don't be deceived in your search for meaning by false teachers, prophets, and preachers. Don't give them the time of day if their teachings don't line up 100% with the Bible. Don't follow them if they rebuke you for standing on God's Truth and challenging them.

Maintain a vibrant, intimate relationship with Jesus Christ through intense quiet time and prayer with Him every day. Fellowship with Christians who will not compromise the Gospel. Lift up those who are struggling, but don't fall in with a weaker crowd. Develop friendships with like-minded Christians as your inner circle. Consult the Lord in everything you do. Every day has meaning in your Christian life. Bring your wounds and issues to Christ. He will never let you down. He will heal you when you wholeheartedly commit your life to Him. Look for God to reveal His purposes in all you do. Keep your mind fine tuned to Him and you see that there are no "accidents, coincidences, or chance occurrences, with God. Every day presents opportunities to accomplish His purposes through you when you completely depend on Him. Love, as He has loved you. Read the Beatitudes. That's how we are supposed to live. Jesus is your purpose, follow Him. Be one of His fishers of men. Live with that reckless abandon for Him. He will provide all the direction and revelations you need through His Word, The Holy Spirit, and your circumstances. Let Him. Learn from King David, Solomon, the Apostle Paul, and Jesus. Remember faith, hope and love, and love is the greatest (1 Cor. 13:13) when you live this life. Obedience to Christ is the Christian life. Joyful expectation of His power in you now and your eternal life with Him in Heaven is your purpose. He is your purpose, your reason to live.

## Epilogue

Recommit to Christ today as you embark on your journey to find your place in this world. Obey Christ, avoid unnecessary problems due to disobedience!

We all have to make these choices. God gave you that longing, the hunger to know Him. He would not have put that deep need to know and understand Him in you if He didn't want a relationship with you. You need Him. I need Him. Life without Christ is hopeless, meaningless, and terrifying. It is good that you want to know more. You are right where you need to be now as you search Him and let Him take you through this life. Hunger and thirst for Jesus Christ as you pursue life with all its mysteries and challenges. You were born to follow Him. You have the answer (Jesus Christ), now work out your salvation with fear and trembling as you get to know Him more and move through life. You don't have to live it in desperation, "under the sun" anymore. Life is vanity and a grasping after the wind without God.

Young adult Christians, minister to the hurting and the lost of your generation. Come alongside them and help them process the deep questions and turmoil they have about this life. Show them the One who has the answers, the One who loves, heals, and directs our lives. Be sure to refute yourselves. Stay close to Christ and let Him give you the strength to help your peers as He guides you. Show them the One Who is the Way, the Life and the Truth! Don't lose your zeal. Fight the good fight. Don't get worn down or overwhelmed by those who falsely rebuke and persecute you. Love them and hold your ground in Christ. They expect you to fight back and hate them or rollover in meekness. Do neither. You don't have to yell at them or back down. You don't need to be afraid of them. Love them. Avoid the rabbit trails over endless debates, and false teachings. Present the Truth in love.

We, your parents (the baby boomer, generation) need to support you in your search for meaning and direction. We need to understand you, encourage, and inspire you to seek Christ in your quest. We need to live the talk too. Young adults are sharp, they can see hypocrisy, inconsistencies, and rebellion in their parents toward God. Your parents will disappoint you, even fail at times to live the Christian life. But, you must forgive them and encourage them too, to stay on track with God. Young adults' parents need to live a life of forgiveness. We all need to forgive one another and stop repeating behaviors that offend and crush one another's spirit. Offer direction and Godly wisdom to your young adult children without forcing it on them. Develop and maintain respectful

relationships with them, allowing them to step out on their own, even when they fail, making the same mistakes you did and warned them about. Don't abandon or reject them. Love them. Forgive them. Help them.

Solomon's father David lived the life of holiness, he walked the talk. He was forgiven. David was a man after God's heart. He taught Solomon the things of God. Solomon asked God for wisdom and got it. He became the wisest richest king ever, but because he sinned and failed to obey God, his son Rehoboam did not rule the whole nation of Israel. The kingdom was torn apart, and Rehoboam ruled the bottom half (Judah). So Solomon talked the talk, gave his son Proverbs and Ecclesiastics, but he did not walk the talk. He failed God, and his son. So Solomon's son rebelled too. We should learn important lessons from these men's lives. God counsels us using Solomon as an example. Solomon realized late in his life the consequences of his sin. He was a man who had it all. We don't have to repeat this pattern. There are examples of those who did not finish like Solomon, but remained faithful to the end. Noah, Enoch, Samuel, Joshua, Caleb, and Daniel finished well and strong because they believed and obeyed God.

Seek God as you search the deep things in life. You will find Him when you search for Him with all of your heart (Jer. 29:13) All the answers to life are to be found in God. Draw near to Him. Trust Him to bring you through this life meeting your needs and helping you fulfill His purpose for you. Meet every challenge with His strength as you search for Him. Be assured that Jesus Christ will guide and protect you. Nothing will separate you from Him. (Romans 8:13-38). We don't have to worry about death, an inevitable part of this life. For Jesus has "abolished death and brought life and immortality to light through the gospel." (2 Ti 1:10). We have the wisdom of God (Holy Spirit) guiding us when we belong to Him. "But of Him you are in Christ Jesus, who became for us wisdom from God; and righteousness and sanctification and redemption; that, as it is written, "He who glories, let him glory in the Lord." (1 Co 1:31). Romans 8:28 says, "And we know that all things work together for good to those who love God, to those who are the called according to His purpose."

Let the following Bible verses encourage you in your journey to know God, your purpose and place in this world!

**Prov. 8:17** - "I love those who love me, And those who seek me diligently will find me."

**Amos 5:4** - "For thus says the LORD to the house of Israel: "Seek Me and live;

**Matt. 7:7** - "Ask, and it will be given to you; seek, and you will find; knock, and it will be opened to you."

**Luke 11:9** - "So I say to you, ask, and it will be given to you; seek, and you will find; knock, and it will be opened to you."

**Eze. 34:11** - "For thus says the Lord GOD: "Indeed I Myself will search for My sheep and seek them out."

**Deut. 4:29** - "But from there you will seek the LORD your God, and you will find Him if you seek Him with all your heart and with all your soul."

**1 Chron. 16:10** - "Glory in His holy name; Let the hearts of those rejoice who seek the LORD!"

**1 Chron. 16:11** - "Seek the LORD and His strength; Seek His face evermore!"

**Psalms 105:3** - "Glory in His holy name; Let the hearts of those rejoice who seek the LORD!"

**Psalms 105:4** - "Seek the LORD and His strength; Seek His face evermore!"

**Isa. 55:6** - "Seek the LORD while He may be found, Call upon Him while He is near."

**Zep. 2:3** - "Seek the LORD, all you meek of the earth, Who have upheld His justice. Seek righteousness, seek humility. It may be that you will be hidden In the day of the LORD's anger."

**John 14:6** - "Jesus said to him, "I am the way, the truth, and the life. No one comes to the Father except through Me."

**Matt. 28:19** - "Go therefore and make disciples of all the nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit,"

**1 John 4:1** - "Beloved, do not believe every spirit, but test the spirits, whether they are of God; because many false prophets have gone out into the world."

**1 Corinthians 13:13** - "And now abide faith, hope, love, these three; but the greatest of these is love."

**John 16:33** - "These things I have spoken to you, that in Me you may have peace. In the world you will have tribulation; but be of good cheer, I have overcome the world."

**F.Y.I.**

Steve Rossi, M.A. L.P.C.  
THE CHRISTIAN COUNSELOR



9525 Katy Freeway  
Suite 311

Houston, TX 77024

713.395.1555

**SPEAKING**

**ENGAGEMENTS**

INFO: 713.395.1555

Download other articles from my  
website:

[www.TheChristianCounselor.Com](http://www.TheChristianCounselor.Com)

<sup>1</sup> The Book of Ecclesiastes - Sermon Outlines. [http://executableoutlines.com/ec/ec\\_so.pdf](http://executableoutlines.com/ec/ec_so.pdf) [Executable Outlines](http://executableoutlines.com), Copyright © Mark A. Copeland, 1992-2009