

**Everything Means Nothing or Everything**  
**Ecclesiastes 1:1-18**  
**The Divine Disruption, 1**  
**Dr. Ted Wueste**

**Solomon is qohelot, or the teacher.** 1:1  
"the words of the preacher"

**Everything means nothing.** 1:2-3  
"Vanity of vanities! All is vanity."

There is nothing of substance that results from man's pursuits.

This leads us to ask: what is the point?

**God strips us of all inferior ways of answering the question ...** 1:4-18

... we believe we can make a difference in the world.  
"a generation goes and a generation comes, but the earth remains forever"

*Life is futile.*

... we pursue pleasure and avoid pain.  
"all things are full of weariness"

*Life is frustrating.*

... we try to find our own meaning.  
"this also is but a striving after wind"

*Life is empty.*

**Where do we go from here?**

1. Allow there to be mystery in your life.
2. Look to Him in every detail of your life.

**Quote:**

"Emptiness is at the center of our humanness. To flee it is to miss the creative openness toward creation and Creator. To stuff it full of things is to block our ability to receive others in listening love. To anesthetize it with addictive experiences is to deaden the creative springs of the true self. Emptiness is to be embraced as a gift." David Augsburger