

What do you do when you don't know it all

Ecclesiastes 11:1-6

1. Invest wisely: Know when to take risks and to play it safe. (vv. 1-2)
 - a. Nehemiah 8:10 Nehemiah said, "Go and enjoy choice food and sweet drinks, and send some to those who have nothing prepared. This day is holy to our Lord. Do not grieve, for the joy of the LORD is your strength."
 - b. 2 Corinthians 9:11 You will be enriched in every way so that you can be generous on every occasion, and through us your generosity will result in thanksgiving to God.
 - c. 1 Kings 10:22 The king had a fleet of trading ships at sea along with the ships of Hiram. Once every three years it returned, carrying gold, silver and ivory, and apes and baboons.

2. Don't let the risks keep you from work. (vv. 3-4)
 - a. Matthew 16:2-3 He replied, "When evening comes, you say, 'It will be fair weather, for the sky is red,' 3 and in the morning, 'Today it will be stormy, for the sky is red and overcast.' You know how to interpret the appearance of the sky, but you cannot interpret the signs of the times.
 - b. Proverbs 22:13 The sluggard says, "There's a lion outside! I'll be killed in the public square!"
 - c. Ecclesiastes 3:1-2 There is a time for everything, and a season for every activity under the heavens: 2a time to be born and a time to die, a time to plant and a time to uproot,

3. Work without knowing everything since you know God knows everything. (vv. 5-6)
 - a. John 3:8 The wind blows where it wishes. You hear its sound, but you do not know where it comes from or where it is going. So it is with everyone born of the Spirit.

LOOKING AT LIFE BEYOND THE SUN:

- Does having the Holy Spirit change our understanding of this passage?
 - 1 Corinthians 2:11 For who knows a person's thoughts except their own spirit within them? In the same way no one knows the thoughts of God except the Spirit of God.
 - 1 Corinthians 2:16 for, "Who has known the mind of the Lord so as to instruct him?" But we have the mind of Christ.
 - 1 Peter 4:12 Dear friends, do not be surprised at the fiery ordeal that has come on you to test you, as though something strange were happening to you.
 - Romans 8:28 And we know that in all things God works for the good of those who love him, who have been called according to his purpose.

- Take risks to serve a good God.
 - Matthew 25:14-30

- Know that it is never a waste to serve God.
 - 1 Corinthians 15:58 Therefore, my dear brothers and sisters, stand firm. Let nothing move you. Always give yourselves fully to the work of the Lord, because you know that your labor in the Lord is not in vain.