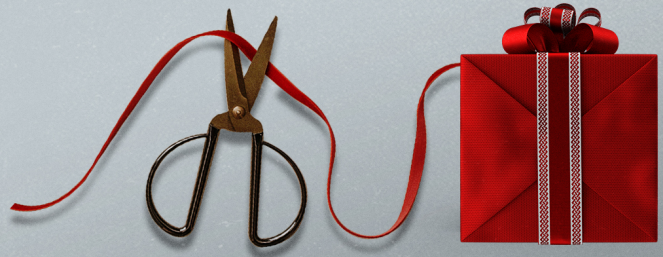


NO STRINGS ATTACHED



– Assurance and Rewards –

Ice-Breaker:

- Do you have trouble believing God is really concerned with your enjoyment in life? (In this life, see 1 Timothy 6:17. In the life to come, see 1 Corinthians 2:9)

Discussion:

Read John 5:24; Romans 8:38-39; John 10:28; Ephesians 2:8-9.

1. How do these verses support assurance of salvation (that eternal life is a free gift of God that can never be lost or taken away)?

Read Hebrews 11:6, 12:2, and 12:25-26

2. How might pursuing the greater pleasure require discipline and self-control?
3. When we give of ourselves for others, are we still pursuing the greater pleasure (i.e. a greater sense of joy, peace and satisfaction)? Why or why not?

Read Ecclesiastes 2:1-17

4. How “pleased” was Solomon as he tried to find pleasure “under the sun?” (see v.17)
5. When does something God intended for our “enjoyment” become a “worldly pleasure”? Give a good definition of a worldly pleasure.

Read Ecclesiastes 2:24-25

6. How does this verse show us that lasting pleasure is found only in God?

Application:

Read Deuteronomy 28:47-48

- Why do you think God is concerned about attitude as well as our actions? What can you do this week to align your attitude with Christ?