

A Pastor for Every Person!

ROCK GROUPS

(Evangelistic Care Groups)
ROCK GROUP DIRECTIVE

LOVING LIFE?

Ice Breaker When was the most **enjoyable** time in your life? Why?

On a scale of 1-10, how much would you say you "love life" right now? How did you land on that number?

Ecclesiastes 2 ¹⁰ I denied myself nothing my eyes desired; I refused my heart no pleasure. My heart took delight in all my work, and this was the reward for all my labor. ¹¹ Yet when I surveyed all that my hands had done and what I had toiled to achieve, everything was meaningless, a chasing after the wind; nothing was gained under the sun... ¹⁷ **So I hated life**, because the work that is done under the sun was grievous to me. All of it is meaningless, a chasing after the wind. NIV

Everyone, at one time or another, has been tempted to "hate life".

In Ecclesiastes Chapter 1, we see the *emotions* that can lead to "hating life"

"I'm frustrated" ²...Life is useless, all useless. ³ You spend your life working ...but what do you have to show for it? ⁴ ...The world stays just the same. GNT

"I'm tired" ⁵ The sun still rises, and it still goes down... ⁶ the wind blows... round and round and back again. ⁷ Every river flows into the sea... [then] the water returns to where the rivers began and starts all over again. ⁸ Everything leads to weariness – a weariness too great for words... GNT

"I'm unfulfilled" 8...No matter how much we see, we're never satisfied. No matter how much we hear, we're not content. 9 History merely repeats itself NLT

How do we overcome feelings of being unfulfilled, frustrated, and fatigued?

FOCUS ON THE ETERNAL!

II Corinthians 4 ¹⁶ Therefore we do not lose heart. Though outwardly we are wasting away, yet inwardly we are being renewed day by day. ¹⁷ For

our light and momentary troubles are achieving for us an eternal glory that far outweighs them all. ¹⁸ So we *fix our eyes* not on what is seen, but on what is unseen. For what is seen is *temporary*, but what is unseen is *eternal*. NIV

HOW CAN WE FOCUS ON ETERNAL THINGS?

- #1 **PRAY Colossians** 3 ¹ Since, then, you have been raised with Christ, set your hearts on things above, where Christ is, seated at the right hand of God. ² Set your minds on things above, not on earthly things. NIV
- #2 **SERVE John 6** ²⁷ Do not work for food that spoils, but for food that endures to *eternal* life... NIV
- #3 <u>GIVE</u> Psalm 112 ⁹ They share freely and *give* generously to those in need. Their good deeds will be *remembered forever*. They will have influence and honor. NLT
- #4 <u>SHARE OUR FAITH IN CHRIST</u> Hebrews 12 ¹ ...Let us throw off everything that hinders and the sin that so easily entangles, and let us run with perseverance the race marked out for us. ² Let us *fix our eyes on Jesus*, the author and perfecter of our *faith*...

TALK IT OVER...

What *truths from the Bible* do you need to find to *outweigh your problems*? How will you go about that?

How will you do all 4 things this week to refocus your mind on the eternal?

Let's *pray in groups of three* for habits and mindsets to "love life".

- ✓ Did you share the vision and mission of COTR and the Rock Groups?
- ✓ Prayer, Ministry time, and Fellowship
- ✓ Prayer for COTR Leadership
- ✓ "Empty Chair" Prayer encourage group to invite someone new next time
- ✓ Did everyone complete the sign-in form?
- Remember to complete the *online report* and *attendance* for the meeting soon