

**every moment has momentum****Review:**

Week 1: selfishness sinks, but **repentance** rises / every moment is for me or God  
 Week 2: defiance dissolves, but **surrender** develops / one decision :: who is Jesus?  
 Week 3: failure breeds failure, but confrontation and **confession** turn the tide.  
 Week 4: following temptation leads to death, but **enduring trials** leads to maturity.

ILL: 30 DAYS ON DRINKING • MOM'S PROJECT FAILS • PLEASURE IS MOTIVATOR

ILL: TRIP TO MEXICO / TOILET BUCKETS • USA IS ADDICTED TO PLEASURE

**The #1 Motivator: Pleasure**

RATS WITH ELECTRODES • THE CHURCH IS NOT IMMUNE • PEOPLE LOOK FOR PLEASURE

*Do not be deceived: God cannot be mocked. A man reaps what he sows. Whoever sows to please their flesh, **from the flesh will reap destruction**; whoever sows to please the Spirit, from the Spirit will reap eternal life.*

Galatians 6:7-8 (NIV2010)

FOR CENTURIES, THE CHURCH AT WAR WITH PLEASURE // PROHIBITION // BUT...

**If pleasure is the number one motivator,****God must want it in our life.**

ALL THAT'S LEFT IS TO UNDERSTAND OUR RELATIONSHIP TO PLEASURE

**Understanding Pleasure****From Ecclesiastes...**

Ecclesiastes 2:1-11 (p. 464)

GO BACK TO CHAPTER ONE AND READ 1-3 FOR CONTEXT

DEBBIE DOWNER • HOW DID HE GET THIS WAY? • READ OUR PASSAGE

- ▶ Pleasure is never the **answer**.

SOLOMON TRIED IT • PERHAPS YOU HAVE TRIED IT • PLEASURE NEVER SATISFIES

*Everything is wearisome beyond description. No matter how much we see, we are never satisfied. No matter how much we hear, we are not content.*

Ecc 1:8 NLT

THE LIE: IF I EAT THIS, IF I CLICK THIS LINK, MY CRAVING WILL BE SATISFIED.

- ▶ Pleasure is an **appetite**.

Ecclesiastes 5:18-20

- ▶ Pleasure with **satisfaction** comes from **God**.

BUT HE'S STILL PESSIMISTIC: 9:7-10

Ecclesiastes 3:11-14

- ▶ God has wired me for **huge pleasure**.

*Be happy, young man, while you are young, and let your heart give you joy in the days of your youth. Follow the ways of your heart and whatever your eyes see, but know that for all these things **God will bring you to judgment.***

Ecc 11:9

**momentum principle (beta)**Pursuit of pleasure leads to **emptiness**God wired me for ultimate **satisfaction**

SOMEHOW THAT'S NOT QUITE RIGHT

**From the New Testament**

James 1:13-18 (p. 837)

- ▶ **Sin is chased, gifts are given.**

THE DIFFERENCE IS THE SOURCE

1 Timothy 4:1-5 (p. 823)

- ▶ God created pleasures to be received with

**thanksgiving**.

THE DIFFERENCE IS THE ATTITUDE

2 Timothy 3:1-5 (p. 826)

- ▶ Pleasures can **replace** God.

**momentum principle (final)**Pursuit of pleasure leads to **emptiness**Pursuing **God** leads to endless **pleasure**.*Delight yourself in the LORD and he will give you the desires of your heart.*

Psalm 37:4

**Take it home**

TODAY, I'M GOING TO VEG OUT WITH FOOTBALL, JUNK FOOD, SUGAR WATER, COMMERCIALS

BUT MAYBE I SHOULD BE MORE ATTENTIVE // WE REFINE &amp; WE SUBSTITUTE

CORN (SYRUP) • COCAINE • BLEACHED FLOUR • CRUSTLESS SANDWICHES • FAT FREE DRESSING

Does my greatest pleasure come from the **experience** of the**gift** or the **knowledge** of the **giver**?

HOW MANY OF YOU HAVE EVER SEEN A GREAT WORK OF ART? THE THING ITSELF

HOW MANY OF YOU HAVE EVER BEEN GIVEN A DRAWING FROM A FIVE YEAR OLD?

APPLY TO FOOD • MOVIES • SEXUALITY • ALCOHOL • (THE OTHER DAY, I MADE FRENCH PRESS)