

## Life before death: Carpe Diem

Ecclesiastes 11

Go for it . . . wisely.

Put your resources to good use.

Invest your life.

Enjoy your life . . . righteously.

There is no time like the present.

We are not getting any younger.

Follow your heart.

Seize the day.

## Considerations for the week

**Carpe diem.** Seize the day: make the most of today, enjoy the present. Explain how this admonition is used in our society and how its use in a Christian's life might differ or be the same.

**Give, v. 2-3.** Describe how this encourages wise generosity rather than hoarding. How might these verses speak to generosity in uncertain times?

**Wind & clouds, v. 4.** What does this mean? Reflect upon how this applies in our lives and in church leadership. When are we tempted to wait for perfect conditions before acting?

**Diligence, v. 6.** We are to sow both morning and evening. What does faithful diligence look like when outcomes are uncertain?

**Light, v. 7.** Consider why the Teacher chose to comment upon the sweetness of light and the goodness of seeing the sun. Mention other sweet and good things available for those who notice.

**Darkness, v. 8.** Remembering our past, the many days of darkness – how might this deepen our appreciation of the present?

**Cheerful youth, v. 9.** Young persons are both encouraged and cautioned. Explore how a desire to honor God might play out in this.

**Heart & body, v. 10.** How might this shape a Christian understanding of joy and responsibility?

*Please use these considerations for personal reflection, small group discussions, and with friends and family.*



**Remove vexation from your heart, and put away pain from your body, for youth and the dawn of life are vanity.**  
— Ecclesiastes 11:10, ESV

Scripture read today during worship:

2 Corinthians 9:7

Acts 20:35

## Prayer today

Members will be praying for us during the service today and also during the week. Please email us at [prayer@rtbchurch.org](mailto:prayer@rtbchurch.org) to let us know how we may pray for you.

**Rice Temple Baptist Church**

## Today's order of service

Prelude, *He Leadeth Me*

Call to worship

Hymn 51

*Guide Me, O Thou Great Jehovah*

Hymn 345, *Blessed Assurance*

Confession and assurance

Hymn, *Hear the Call of the Kingdom*

Hymn, *Build Your Kingdom Here*

Offertory

Reading and prayer

Hymn, *By Faith*

Message

Hymn of response 379

*Take My Life and Let It Be*

Benediction

Postlude, *I Love to Tell the Story*

## Weekly events

Today after benediction, Cookies & Coffee, in parlor

Young adults fellowship, Monday at 6:45pm. Dinner and discussion for those in college or starting careers.

Mom's Day Out, Tuesday and Friday, 9am – 2pm  
pre-registration required

Women's Bible study, Tues. at 10 am or Thurs. at 7 pm

Wednesday

Kids' Music Class, 5-6 pm

Dinner, 5:30-6:30 pm. Menu: beef taco salad,  
fruit, cheesecake, ice cream

Prayer, 6:30 pm in the prayer room

BLAST! Children's Bible study and fun, 6:00 pm

Ladies' international Bible class (Zoom), 6:45 pm

Sermon discussion on Zoom, 7 pm

Choir rehearsal, 7:45 pm

Joy Program, Thursday, 9am-noon, conversational  
English classes, Bible study, crafts, and handbells

Endurance men's Bible study, Thursday at 6pm  
Focus: college-aged / young adult men

Young internationals Bible study, Saturday at 7 pm

Men's Bible study, every-other Saturday at 8 am.  
Meets this week, January 24

Sunday morning

Adult Bible study, 9:30 am

Worship, 10:45 am

Children's Church at sermon time

**Family mission trip** McAllen, Texas,  
March 6-10. See Templegram or office  
for details. Sign up by February 20.

**Got the app?** You can  
download our free mobile  
app by searching for  
"RTBC" in the Apple or  
Android store.

Our website is at  
<https://rtbc.faith>

rtbc  
online giving



**Clothing drive** benefitting Christian Community  
Service Center. Collection box is outside the church  
office. Now through February 17.

**Templegram** Our weekly newsletter is provided  
to us by email, usually on Tuesday. If you'd like to  
receive it, please email us at [office@rtbchurch.org](mailto:office@rtbchurch.org).

**The church office has information on events.**

Phone: 713.559.6875 Email: [office@rtbchurch.org](mailto:office@rtbchurch.org)  
The office is open Tuesday - Friday, 9am-3pm