

Ministering to Aging Parents

ECCLESIASTES 12:1-5



MESSAGE BY FATHER CHUCK OWENS

Ecclesiastes 12:1-5 The Living Bible Thoughts to Ponder

1. Read Ecclesiastes 12:1-5 in The Living Bible.
 - a. How is old age described in verses three through five?
 - b. In your experience, have you found this description to be fair?
 - c. How old are you? How much longer do you think you'll live?
 - d. Does your answer to c. above cause you to value your remaining days and make the most of them? If so, how are you planning to do this?

2. Recall your parents' later years.
 - a. Do/did they worry about money? If so, how did that impact their lives?
 - b. Do/did they worry about their health? To what extent and why?
 - c. Are/were they productively using their time? How and why?
 - d. Do/did they experience love and affirmation from others? From you? Read I Timothy 5:8 TLB – what does it say to you?
 - e. Are/were they worried about dying with dignity? Do/did they have living wills? Do you?

3. As your parents aged:
 - a. Do/did you love them unconditionally? If so, give an example. If not, why not?
 - b. Are/were you sensitive to their growing dependence on you. If so, give an example. If not, why not?

- c. Do/did you encourage them to think beyond themselves and do for others? If so, how did they respond? If not, why not?
 - d. Did you give them your time? If not, why not?
4. Is/were your parents' lives centered on Jesus? Is yours?

