The Only Way to Go Ray Stedman

I.	Introduction.

- A. Text: Ecclesiastes 9:11-10:15.
- B. Age increases faster than wisdom does.
- C. Wisdom does not deliver us from pain, but it keeps one from bitterness.
- II. Natural abilities are not enough with which to handle life.
 - A. Time and chance happen to all people—you have to be the right man at the right place at the right time.
 - B. Life is not in our control.

III. True wisdom.

- A. There is a true wisdom that can turn disaster into victory. (II Kings 12)
 - 1. The world rejects the wisdom of the world—it will not make a person popular.
 - 2. Christian wisdom is that which can free a person nevertheless.
- B. True wisdom is acting upon God's revelation with a renewed mind. (Romans 12:1)
 - 1. Godly wisdom is not giving into divorce when married for example.
 - 2. God came to give us hearts to care about one another and mend our broken homes.
- C. God's insights provide a safer guidance through life than the impulsive actions of those around them.
- D. Wisdom is better than running away—deference makes better amends.
- E. Wisdom enlists help over time.

Application questions:

1. Why is it important to realize that life is not in our control?		
2. What examples of true wisdom stand out to you? Why?		

3. What are some other ways that true wisdom goes against the wisdom of man today? How can
the believer be light in these circumstances?