

# Children's Ministry

THIRD  
FOURTH

November 8<sup>th</sup> || Ecclesiastes 9

Main Point: God's sovereignty means He controls all things. He does not respond to events, He causes them.

Read Ecclesiastes 9:10-12 and ask:

1. Why does the Preacher say you should work hard now?
2. What happens to your plans when you die?
3. What things are overtaken by time and chance?
4. What control do you ultimately have over your life?

Read Proverbs 16:33. Show the kids a pair of dice. Roll them and then ask:

1. How much can you control what number comes up?
2. How well can you guess what number is going to come up?
3. Does God know what number will come up?
4. How often does He control the outcome?

Take your time with the kids showing them the dice. Explain that the "lot" was much like these dice. You would throw the lot, and depending on how it would land, you would consider that an answer. Have the kids guess what number they think the dice will fall on. How often can they guess properly?

But God's sovereignty doesn't mean He can simply guess what will happen. It means that God determines what will happen! Now have each kid roll the dice, and tell them what number you want them to get. (If they succeed, have them try again to show that they can't really determine the result.) Each time the dice is rolled, God not only knows what number the dice will end on...God determines what number it will land on!

This means that "luck" and "chance" aren't a reality in life. We may not always see the reason or purpose behind things, but God is moving in all situations. "God CAUSES all things to work together for the good, to those who love God..." You can rest in knowing that your life is in God's hands, and He is lovingly in control of all things!

- Ask the kids:
1. How can not believing in "luck" change the way I respond when something doesn't go the way I'd like?
  2. What is God's ultimate purpose in all that He does?

## Driving it home...



For this reason the Father loves Me, because I lay down My life so that I may take it again. No one has taken it away from Me, but I lay it down on My own initiative. I have authority to lay it down, and I have authority to take it up again. This commandment I received from My Father.—John 10:17-18

God does not respond to events around Him and adapt. He determines what will happen. Ultimately, we see this with Jesus. He was not accidently killed, and God didn't change His plan to give the crucifixion purpose. Jesus laid down His life for us, so that we could be saved!