



EXPLORE THE BIBLE.

Session 10: Why Listen?

Suggested Week of Use: August 8, 2021

Core Passage: Ecclesiastes 4:13–5:7

News Story Summary

As of August 2, the National Weather Service began using new categories to describe severe thunderstorm warnings and their possible impact. The label “destructive” will be used to describe a storm with hail 2.75 inches or more in diameter (baseball-sized) and/or 80 mph thunderstorm winds. When this situation occurs, a wireless emergency alert (WEA) will be activated on smartphones in the affected area. The tag “considerable” will be used to describe a storm with hail at least 1.75 inches in diameter (golf ball-sized) and/or 70 mph winds, but the smartphone alert will not be activated. The criteria for a baseline severe thunderstorm warning remains unchanged, 1-inch (quarter-sized) hail and/or 58 mph thunderstorm winds. The goal of the new warnings is to urge people to take action to protect themselves and their vehicles (when possible). According to the National Weather Service, about one in ten storms reach the destructive category each year.

For more about this story, search “New Destructive Storm Warning Category”.

Focus Attention

To replace the Introduce idea under Focus Attention, share with them the information about the new warning system for thunderstorms. Allow them to share their response to the new system. *Ask: What wisdom do you see in defining a storm as destructive or considerable? How will the new designation impact how you respond to a warning?* Explain that the new warning designation comes from past experiences and counsel of experts. Complete the step using the Connect idea.

Summarize and Challenge

To replace the Ask idea under Summarize and Challenge, recall the story of the new warning categories from the National Weather Service. *Say: Hopefully, people who receive these new warnings will heed them and avoid possible injury or damage to property.* Invite volunteers to share how they might encourage others to pay attention to these new warnings. Highlight the first question set under Apply the Text and lead the group to share their responses. Lead the group to compare how they might encourage others to heed the storm warning with how they might encourage others to listen to wise counsel. Complete the step using the Evaluate idea.