Living With Mystery (Ecclesiastes 11:1-8)

I. Introduction: What might have been?

Do not rehearse or fear what you do not know, but remain steadfast in doing what you do know!

II. Use your resources BOLDY (11:1-3)

Cast your bread upon the waters ... (v. 1a)

for you will find it after many days (v. 1b)

Give portions to seven or even to eight ... (v. 2)

Understanding this verse in light of **giving** (Prov 22:9, 19:17, Deut 15:10, Luke 6:38, 14:12-14)

The certainty of the laws of **giving**, **sowing** and **reaping** (v.3)

The parable of the talents (Matt 25:14-18)
Are you burying the Gospel message?

Diversify and multiply your Gospel efforts!

III. Use your resources at EVERY OPPORTUNITY (11:4-8)

Two excuses used for not sowing:

The conditions – wind and rain (v. 4)

God is sovereign and mysterious (v. 5)

For the very reason that God IS sovereign ... sow seeds! (v. 6)

Sow liberally, even if most of our seed falls on the path (Matt 13)

The sovereignty of God is the wind behind our evangelistic zeal

IV. Labor while it is day, for who knows what we might yet see! (11:7-8)

Is this a works-oriented message?

It has always been God's intention for man to work in sowing and reaping (Gen 2:15)

After redemption, Jesus taught us to work (John 9:4)

Labor while it is day, for the glory of God, it will not be in vain!