



ECCLESIASTES CHAPTER 4 (FACILITATOR)

Discussion Starter

- Would you characterize yourself as a person who likes to do more talking or do more listening? Which do you think is oftentimes more beneficial? Explain.
- **Opening Prayer**
 - Ask if someone wants to volunteer before leading the prayer.

Breaking it Down

- All questions should be utilized as appropriate based upon group dynamics to facilitate both understanding and discussion. Don't feel tied to the questions and don't feel like you must get through every question. Follow the Spirit's lead! All questions are a matter of perspective in some way BUT there are specific questions that this is truer of, and these questions have been indicated to be perspective/opinion questions.
- Please use your own style, voice, and approach in preparing for leading your life group. Most importantly, take a few minutes to pray over the time together with you group and pray over each group member by name.

Tell the Story

- **PLEASE MAKE SURE THAT YOU HAVE ONE PERSON WHO STORIES (SUMMARIZES THE CHAPTER) BEFORE THE GROUP READS THE CHAPTER TOGETHER.**

Read the Story (Ecclesiastes 4:1-16)

Read out loud as a group, 3-5 verses per person. Let everyone know they can opt out if they would like.

Ecclesiastes 4:1-7

- While Solomon may be misguided about some of his conclusions when considering the oppression of people that he sees around him, he is in fact troubled by the injustice and oppressions he sees as a part of the world.
 - In what ways does your heart break for the things that God's heart breaks for and how are you moved to some type of action as a result? How do you respond to injustices that you see in the world around you?

- These are perspective and opinion questions so please listen as the facilitator.

□ Reread verses 6-7.

- In what areas of your life are you focusing too much on what really doesn't matter significantly in the big picture? In what areas of your life do you need to be placing more focus regarding the things that matter significantly in the big picture?

- These are perspective and opinion questions so please listen as the facilitator.

Ecclesiastes 4:8-16

- In what ways does this passage speak to a person's need for spiritual community? What do you resonate with about this?
 - These are perspective and opinion questions so please listen as the facilitator.

Final Application

- What does this passage teach us about God?
- What does this passage teach us about mankind?
- What is a command to obey in this passage?
- What has God revealed in your life that needs changing?
- What truth can be applied to your life about the gospel?

Closing & Prayer Requests

- Have a designated person to capture and share (as appropriate) within the life group.
- What happens in life group, stays in life group.
- Don't forget get to confirm the next meeting date and time

Also recruit someone to do the story for the following week. (Ecclesiastes chapter 5)

ECCLESIASTES CHAPTER 4 (STUDENT)

Ecclesiastes 4:1-7

- While Solomon may be misguided about some of his conclusions when considering the oppression of people that he sees around him, he is in fact troubled by the injustice and oppressions he sees as a part of the world.
 - In what ways does your heart break for the things that God's heart breaks for and how are you moved to some type of action as a result? How do you respond to injustices that you see in the world around you?

- Reread verses 6-7.
 - In what areas of your life are you focusing too much on what really doesn't matter significantly in the big picture? In what areas of your life do you need to be placing more focus regarding the things that matter significantly in the big picture?

Ecclesiastes 4:8-16

- In what ways does this passage speak to a person's need for spiritual community? What do you resonate with about this?

Final Application

- What does this passage teach us about God?
- What does this passage teach us about mankind?
- What is a command to obey in this passage?
- What has God revealed in your life that needs changing?

What truth can be applied to your life about the gospel?