

Doing Life Together Notes

Ecclesiastes 4:1-16

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Main Point: Be intentional about connecting with others because we are made for community.

Troubling Aspects of Loneliness

1. The loneliness of _____ (vs. 1)
2. The loneliness of _____ (vs. 4)
3. The loneliness of _____ (vs. 7-8).
 - "It is _____ good that the man should be alone" (Genesis 2:18).

Six Advantages of Authentic Community

1. Companionship (vs. 9).
 - We are _____ together (Proverbs 27:17).
 - Instead of being independent, we're called to be _____.
 - _____ for companionship, knowing Satan wants you to be isolated and alone so you falter and fall out.
2. Collaboration (vs. 9).
 - The word "toil" refers to "trouble or _____."
 - Relationships take a lot of work, but there's a _____ when both work together.
 - "Friendship _____ your joys, and divides your sorrows" (Psalm 133:1).
3. Consolation (vs. 10).
 - Others can _____ you when you're down and help you get up when you've fallen.
 - The word "fall" has the idea of falling flat on your _____.
 - The word "lift" means "to _____ from the ground."
 - The word "woe" refers to "a cry of _____" and was used to convey the urgent importance of having someone to help us when we're hurting.
4. Comfort (vs. 11).
 - Living in close community can also warm your soul when the _____ of life has frozen your faith.
 - Being with other Christians gave Paul _____ and comfort.
 - We have a responsibility to live out the 59 "One Another" statements in the Bible.
 - These are impossible to obey if you're not in _____ with others.
 - We are to _____ one another (Hebrews 3:13).
 - We are to _____ together (Hebrews 10:24-25).
5. Composure (vs. 12).

- It's easy to fall apart and to feel overwhelmed when we're alone, but the presence of at least one close companion can give us confidence to _____ problems. (vs. 12, Proverbs 17:17, Luke 10:1).
6. Completion (vs. 12).
- We're designed to _____ our lives with others, not live isolated from others.
 - The twist of the strands in a twisted or braided rope serves not only to keep a rope together, but enables the rope to more evenly _____ tension among the individual strands.
 - A trained and unified pair of horses can pull up to 32,000 pounds, almost _____ times as much as a single horse.

Action Steps

1. Enter into a saving relationship with _____ (Proverbs 18:24).
2. Get connected with _____.
3. Become a _____ member of Edgewood.