CHANGE THE QUESTION
Ecclesiastes 4:1-16

We ask this question of kids, “What are you going to do when you grow up?” It’s another way of asking, “How will you measure your success in life?” As adults we live by other variations of the question, “What am I living for?” The daily measurement of life then becomes this question, “How am I doing today?” But what if we’re asking wrong question, or at least basing the question on the wrong foundation.

 Monday: Read Ecclesiastes 4:1-3.
The Teacher observes oppression with “no one to comfort” the hurting.
Who is suffering alone around you, locally or globally?
How might God be calling you to step in with comfort, presence, or advocacy?

 Tuesday: Read Ecclesiastes 4:4-6.
We often compare ourselves to others and strive for more, yet the Teacher calls this “meaningless.” In what areas of life are you striving for “success” in ways that may actually leave you empty? What would it look like to embrace “one handful with tranquility” (NIV)?

 Wednesday: Read Ecclesiastes 4:7-8.
This passage describes a person who has everything, but no one to share it with.
What are you working for? Who are you working *with* or *for*?
What can make the accumulation of more things, or even success, lonely?

 Thursday: Read Ecclesiastes 4:9-12.
This beautiful reflection on community reminds us that “two are better than one.”
Who helps you stand when you fall? And who do you help in return?
How can you invest more deeply in mutual, life-giving relationships?

 Friday: Read Ecclesiastes 4:13-16.
These verses describe the fleeting nature of influence and leadership.
What legacy are you hoping to leave behind, and how much of it depends on being known versus being faithful? How does this view of legacy challenge your view of success?

 Saturday: Read Philippians 2:1-4.
Paul calls us to “look not to our own interests, but to the interests of others.”
How does this New Testament lens reflect the wisdom of Ecclesiastes 4?
What would it look like this week to ask, *“How are we doing?”* instead of *“How am I doing?”*

Chapter 4 in Ecclesiastes offers a different set of questions to live by. “How am I living for others?” “How are ***we*** doing?” The value of life is not in what you earn, but in how you live in relationship with others.
The key to satisfaction and joy in life: SHARE!