

**Key Scripture**

*“Again I saw all the oppressions that are done under the sun. And behold, the tears of the oppressed, and they had no one to comfort them! On the side of their oppressors there was power, and there was no one to comfort them. 2 And I thought the dead who are already dead more fortunate than the living who are still alive. 3 But better than both is he who has not yet been and has not seen the evil deeds that are done under the sun.” – Ecclesiastes 4:1-3 (ESV)*

*“Blessed are those who mourn, for they shall be comforted.” – Matthew 5:4 (ESV)*

**Start Talking: Find a conversation starter for your group. (15 Min)**

- When was the last time you stood up for someone? Why did you feel the need to do so? Have you ever not spoken up and then felt bad that you didn't?

**Head: Start Thinking. Ask a question to get your group thinking. (10 Min)**

- Read Ecclesiastes 4:1-3. Can you explain in your own words what the writer is thinking and feeling in these verses?
- Read Ecclesiastes 4:1-3. Why would it say that the dead are happier than the living? Would you agree or disagree with that?
- Read Ecclesiastes 4:1-3. What does God say about the broken hearted? What does His word say about those who suffer?

**Heart: Start Sharing. Choose a question to create openness. (10 Min)**

- How do you feel when you see oppression or suffering? Do you ever feel like you are becoming harder because of it? Do you feel that you are ignoring injustice and it weighs on you?
- Do you think there is a place for you to stand against injustice? What would that look like to you?
- How do you think God has or will comfort those who suffer? How has He comforted you?

**Hands: Start Doing. Commit to a step and live it out this week. (10 Min)**

- Where could you go to volunteer this week? Homeless shelter, food bank, blood donation? Make a plan to devote some time somewhere helping others who need help.
- Take a minute this week to not overlook the oppressed or the suffering, reflect on what God's heart feels for them and empathize with it.

**Start Praying. Be bold and pray with power. (15 Min)**

- For suggestions on structuring prayer time, see the *Group Prayer Ideas* page in this packet.

**Trios: Split into same-gender groups of three. (15 Min)**

1. What's a passage of scripture that has impacted you this week? Read it to the group and explain why.
2. Is there anything God is leading you to repent of?
3. How's your weekly 3-2-1 challenge going? (*3 Conversations with New People, Learn 2 Names, Make 1 Meaningful Connection*)
4. Who is one non-believer that you need to reach out to this week?
5. What's something you'd like someone else to check in with you about this week?
6. Pray for one another.