

ECCLESIASTES

JANUARY 25, 2026

READ

- Read Ecclesiastes 4:1-16 and consider what lessons the Holy Spirit intends us to learn. Consider reading the passage a second time in another translation (for instance, NIV or NLT) to aid in comprehension.

EXAMINE

- How does the message of verses 1-3 relate to the biblical theme of God as defender and protector—a God who cares for the oppressed?
- How do verses 5-6 balance warnings against laziness and endless toil?
- What do verses 7-12 teach about the importance of community in life?

APPLY

- Where do you see injustice and oppression? How do you tend to respond when you encounter injustice?
- How does the death and resurrection of Christ inform our perspective on injustice today (vv1-3)? How does it compel us to act?
- Do you tend more towards laziness or endless toil? How can the gospel help bring you to a healthier approach to your work?
- Verses 7-12 speak to the importance of community—how can we provide genuine help to the isolated? What practices can you prioritize in your life to keep from being isolated?
- Given that power and fame are fleeting, how can you anchor your identity in Christ alone rather than chase what will fail? Why is it so hard to find your identity in Christ alone?

PRAY

- Take time to praise God for who He is, confess sins, and/or make requests based on this passage.