



# PULPIT CURRICULUM

"Strength in Numbers: Building Relationships that Last"

October 25 - October 31, 2020

## Verse of the Week: Ecclesiastes 4:9 -10 (ESV)

*"Two are better than one, because they have a good reward for their toil. For if they fall, one will lift up his fellow. But woe to him who is alone when he falls and has not another to lift him up!"*

## 1. GOING DEEPER

### Ecclesiastes 4: 9 - 12

1) What does Solomon mean when he says "...because they have a good reward for their toil" (Ecc. 4:9) Provide illustrations to support your point.

---

---

2a) What scripture references can be used to guide someone in choosing friends wisely?

---

b) Compare and contrast Ecclesiastes 4:9 with 2 Corinthians 6:14

---

3a) How does the sermon text crystallize the importance of actively engaging in Christian community?

---

b) What are the consequences of isolation? Can a Christian go to church and still be isolated from the community? Give support to your answer.

---

## 2. ASSESS YOUR LIFE

1) How committed are you to building relationships that last?



I do not understand how to build a lasting relationship



I am inconsistent when it comes to building lasting relationships



I want to build lasting relationships and am seeking to do so



I am committed to building lasting relationships but need to do so more consistently



I am fully committed to building lasting relationships

2) What strategy have you been using to choose companions in your life?

---

## 3. APPLICATION

1. Name three significant relationships you have. What can you do to ensure that these relationships last?

a. \_\_\_\_\_

b. \_\_\_\_\_

c. \_\_\_\_\_

2. Of the list above, which one(s) will you be intentional about working on this week?

---

I will ask \_\_\_\_\_ to hold me *accountable* in this.

## Sermon Reflection

To build relationships that last one must:

- 🕒 Journey together for the best results
- 🕒 Carefully choose your companions
- 🕒 Intentionally build the right relationships

What stood out for me in this sermon? What is something I can do to remember this?

## 5 Day Study Plan ("Study to show yourself Approved unto God...")

**Day 1**

### **Ephesians 4:29**

What I learned (observation / interpretation):

How I will Respond (application):

**Day 2**

### **1 Corinthians 15:33**

What I learned:

How I will Respond:

**Day 3**

### **Proverbs 27:17**

What I learned:

How I will Respond:

**Day 4**

### **Proverbs 17:17**

What I learned:

How I will Respond:

**Day 5**

### **1 Thessalonians 5:11**

What I learned:

How I will Respond:

## Inductive Bible Study



**Observation** (*What does the text say?*)

This phase is about observing exactly what the text is saying.

Pretend you're an investigator who's just gathering the facts. Ask yourself the five W's and H: (Who, what, where, when, why, how).



**Interpretation** (*What does the text mean?*)

Discover what the author is trying to communicate. And to do this, you need to look at the context to determine

- 🕒 What is the **main theme** and what is the **meaning** of key words;
- 🕒 Examine **cross references**
- 🕒 Compare **translations**
- 🕒 **Summarize** the text
- 🕒 **Use** commentaries (last resort)



**Application** (*How should this affect Me?*)

Don't study the bible just for knowledge – study for application. If you stop at the interpretation stage, you are selling yourself short. Based on what you have learnt, ask yourself "How should this change the way I think, speak and behave?"

Seek to identify if there are - **Sins** to confess; **Promises** to claim; **Examples** to follow; **Actions** to obey or **Knowledge** to grow in.

For best results, this content should be read and prepared privately and then discussed in your small group or with family / friends.  
We were not created to do life alone - get engaged today.