

Do you think it's true that we spend most of our time thinking about ourselves? Why or why not?

Read **Ecclesiastes 4:4-8** and discuss the following.

According to this passage, what motivates our work and toil? What are the things that in your worst moments, you envy in others?

How do **v.5-6** contrast one another? To which extreme are you more prone, laziness or busyness? What might it look like to take steps to fight against this temptation?

Describe how a middle road approach (*not lazy, not overly busy*) might bring greater joy to you and greater glory to God.

Solomon suggests that it is better to have someone to work for—to share the fruit of our labor with. What do you think about this idea?

Read **Ecclesiastes 4:9-16** and discuss the following.

Compare working together versus working alone. How are two better than one? List as many benefits as you can.

Thinking back on last week's passage and discussion, how might working with and for others serve as an answer to the problem of oppression?

How does the fact that we are made in the image of the Triune God support the idea that we are hardwired for community? Explain.

Share other Scripture passages or biblical principles that affirm our need for "*one another*" living.

How does **v.12** hint at Christian community? How is Christian fellowship different from other "friend" groups?

How were the actions of the "*poor and wise youth*" proven "*better*" than those of "*an old and foolish king*"? Explain.

How has this passage of Scripture and discussion most comforted and/or convicted you personally?