

TWO ARE BETTER THAN ONE
Ecclesiastes 4:7-16

Oakridge Community Church
Questions for Consideration and Discussion

Introduction:

1. Ecclesiastes 3:22, cf. 2:25; 3:1, 17, 21
2. Ecclesiastes 4:1-6

Two Are Better Than One
Ecclesiastes 4:7-16

I. DON'T DESPISE RELATIONSHIPS

- A. An example – 4:7-8a
- B. Proverbial counsel
 1. Relationships enable greater productivity – 4:9
 2. Relationships provide needed help – 4:10
 3. Relationships provide mutual support – 4:11
 4. Relationships provide mutual protection – 4:12
- C. Scriptural emphasis on relationships
 1. Triune Godhead
 2. Genesis 2:18
 3. John 11:5; Mark 6:7
 4. Hebrews 10:24-25

II. DON'T DEPEND ON RELATIONSHIPS (for ultimate fulfillment)

- A. The example 4:13-16a
- B. The point 4:16b

Conclusion

1. Ecclesiastes 3:11
2. Romans 5:10
3. Matthew 22:37-39

1. Have you ever pulled away from relationships by devoting yourself to certain projects in life? What led you to do so?
2. What factors and experiences might tempt you to become cynical about relationships?
3. How have you experienced the four advantages of relationships presented in Ecclesiastes 4:9-12? How has your experience affected your perspective of relationships?
4. Being made in His image, how should the fact that the triune God eternally exists in relationships affect your view of relationships in your life?
5. In what ways do we tend to expect more from human relationships than we should? Have you ever done so? How did it turn out?
6. How can we keep from despising human relationships while at the same time keep from idolizing human relationships?
7. What does it look like to be so devoted to the Lord and satisfied in Him that we can enjoy and worship Him in connection with the human relationships He enables us to have? What steps can you take in this direction?