

**Thursday** - Read I Corinthians 12:12-27. As you read, what point do you think Paul is trying to make here? In verses 14-20, what is Paul saying in terms of whether or not we belong together? Who was it and in what manner has the body been put together? What is your personal reaction to verse 18? What function is the body designed to play according to verses 25 and 26. One of the foremost desires of the human heart is a sense of belonging (family, home, community). I think if Solomon had known Paul, he would have echoed this teaching from his lack of feeling connected. May you always know that you belong and that God has composed your place in this body according to His divine and sovereign choice.

**Friday** - Read Ephesians 2:1-21. How does what is said in verses 1-10 set up what Paul says in 11-22 (in other words, what is Paul's thought pattern here as you see it)? Given the first century hostility between Jew and non-Jew, what is Paul saying the remedy is for this divided group of people? What is Paul saying is the true destination in bringing these two groups together (think a bit on that and then look at verse 22)? How can the spirit reside in us when we are a divided body? Are there any barriers and/or dividing walls that you need Jesus to break down that currently exist between you and another person? Ask Him for wisdom and to use you to be an instrument of reconciliation in your world!

# Life...

## From One to Two to Three

### Introduction

A Band of Brothers

### I. Spiraling down the ladder of success

- A. The peril of \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_ (4:1-3).
- B. The peril of \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_ (4:4-6).
- C. The peril of \_\_\_\_\_ (4:7-8).

### II. Anchored through life because you're not alone

- A. The beauty of \_\_\_\_\_ in the midst of \_\_\_\_\_  
and \_\_\_\_\_ (4:9-10).
- B. The beauty of \_\_\_\_\_ when we are \_\_\_\_\_  
and \_\_\_\_\_ (4:11).
- C. The beauty of a \_\_\_\_\_ who has our back when we're  
\_\_\_\_\_ (4:12).

### Conclusion

Who is there for you!

## The Emmaus Road

...and he opened to us the Scriptures (Luke 24:32)

What is all the success in the world unless you have someone to share it with? We were made for each other and designed to live our lives in, through, and for one another! That was Solomon's point this past Sunday as he developed the grim comparison between life lived alone and one spent in community. There is an undeniable theme in scripture about God forming us for one another. Let's revisit these themes with this question in mind, "Am I meaningfully connected to others?"

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**Monday** - Read Ecclesiastes 4:1-3. What has Solomon's success caused him to understand according to this passage? Who is the one doing the oppressing? Who are the people shedding the tears? Solomon has climbed the ladder of success and wants nothing more than to get off it as he sees what his unbridled power has done to others. Have you ever been affected by another person's sin? Can you think of a time when your sin has hurt someone? Solomon now understands that his quest to find meaning in life has hurt others whom he is oppressing. May you walk carefully knowing that there is much at stake!

**Tuesday** - Read Ecclesiastes 4:4-8. What is Solomon saying in verse 4? What indictment is he making in terms of our motivation to work? We can either do nothing and bring destruction upon ourselves (verses 5-6), or we can develop a new motivation. What motivation do you think Solomon is promoting according to verses 7 and 8? What do you think he is crying out for in his own life? How are you sharing your life with another? When was the last time you sat down with your spouse or a good friend and opened yourself up to them? Do it and watch God move in your life!

**Wednesday** - Read Ecclesiastes 4:9-12. Now Solomon is beginning to move toward the positive; toward the beauty of community. What does Solomon mean in verse 9 about two being better than one? Does verse eleven give you comfort or does it cause you to be discouraged? If/when you fall, is there someone there to pick you up? I believe Solomon is confessing that he has no one and it grieves him. What about you?