

LIFE Group Guide

Futility and Flourishing

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THE ORCHARD

Read: Ecclesiastes 4

Outline:

- **Introduction:**

What does a life well-lived look like? How can we live a flourishing life in this futile world?

1a. A sinful, broken world- the reality of living under the sun (4:1-3)

1b. (Application) With Christ we live in a new reality under the sun.

2a. Three ways in which we can live a better life. (4:4-16)

Contentment is better than **envy** in the pursuit of **achievement (4:4-6)**

Friendship is better than **loneliness** in the pursuit of **wealth (4:7-12)**

Humility is better than **pride** in the pursuit of **power (4:13-16)**

2b. (Application) With Christ's help and together we can be truly content, have friends, and be humble in navigating our achievements, wealth, and power.

Conclusion:

So, what does it look like to live a well-lived life. How can we flourish in a futile world?

1. With Christ we can live under the sun with meaning, and we can have a happy life as we have hope and purpose, we can have the right perspective amidst the brokenness of this world.
2. With Christ's help and together, we can be truly content, have friends, and be humble in navigating our achievements, wealth, and power.

Discussion Questions

1. What was something from the passage/message that led you to think, feel, or act biblically?
2. How does this passage connect with our lives today?
3. How does this passage point to or reflect Jesus Christ?
4. What would it look like for you to navigate the achievements, wealth and power of this life?
5. Why would Jesus Christ and what He offers be better than what this life can offer us?
6. Have you thought about the importance of friendship with fellow Christians? Do you think it is important given the reality of this life?
7. What does contentment look like for you in your achievements?