

HOW'S YOUR CORD COMING ALONG?

Week 4/10 in the series Ecclesiastes

May 18, 2014 • Pastor Robb Williams • *Ecclesiastes 4:1-15*

The “preacher” in Ecclesiastes looks up to include God and bring hope seven times in this book (2:24-26; 3:12-13, 22; 5:18-20; 8:15; 9:7; 11:7-10; 12:13). He also on occasion shares some pretty incredible wisdom, like today. For the one who is feeling a little lonely, for the one who is finding oneself isolated, the preacher has some fantastic advice. Struggle no more! A three-fold cord is not quickly broken.

1. **We all face shades of loneliness** (*Ecclesiastes 4:1-8*)! Loneliness is a tough internal struggle to see in someone, but we all have various shades of it.
2. **Aaah. Companions** (*Ecclesiastes 4:9-12*). The great advantages of companions: mutual spurring, protection and increased strength.
3. **Three-fold cord** (*Ecclesiastes 4:12*)? True companionship is a strength not easily broken.

APPLICATION

Do you have the means or the process to deepen relationships?

NEXT WEEK: 5/10 • RELATIONSHIPS (*Ecclesiastes 5-6:5*)

By Pastor Robb Williams

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Use the following notes in your Growth Group or for further personal study of today's message. We hope these will enrich and deepen your walk as you study God's Word.

GETTING STARTED:

1. Describe a time in your life when you felt alone and without purpose. What gave you hope?

DIGGING DEEPER:

2. What is the benefit of having someone come along side you? (*Ecclesiastes 4:9-10*)
3. How have you seen community (a three-fold cord) at work to encourage and strengthen people?

APPLICATION:

4. How will you pursue a meaningful relationship this week (Call someone you wouldn't normally, join a growth group, reach out to someone who is hurting, write a note of encouragement)?