

## TWO ARE BETTER THAN ONE

Ecclesiastes 4.7-16 // May 26, 2019

### ONE IS THE LONELIEST NUMBER

From the beginning, God said it is "not good for man to be alone." And here, the Preacher declares that it is much better to have another. Specifically, someone to be alongside of us, irrespective of the actual relationship (spouse, friend, child), the broader concept is to have people in our lives that we share life with, and that are able to be our help in times of need.

### CROWDED LONELINESS

Proverbs 17.17, 18.24, 27.5, 6 // Hebrews 3.13, 10.24, 25  
Philippians 1.27, 28

**True friendship calls you out of the darkness of personal privacy into the loving candor of mutual concern. It moves you from being a sealed envelope to being an open letter.**

-Paul Tripp, Instruments in the Redeemer's Hands

### THE NEED FOR COUNSEL AND WISDOM

Proverbs 11.14 // 2 Timothy 2.22, 23

- **Defending:** Do you justify your actions, even using Scripture to do so?
- **Faking:** Do you put on a different face/image around people than in private?
- **Hiding:** Do you avoid relationships that call you out?
- **Exaggerating:** Do you make yourself sound better (or worse) than you are?
- **Blaming:** Do you bring up the past or others frequently. Do you say, "I'm sorry, but..."
- **Downplaying:** Do you say, "what's the big deal," or "it's not like I'm [something worse]." Or "this is different"
- **Comparing:** Do you compare yourself to others, for better or worse?

2 Corinthians 7.5-7



## NOTES:

### This Week's Scripture to Memorize:

**Psalm 43:5**

Why are you cast down, O my soul, and why are you in turmoil within me? Hope in God; for I shall again praise him, my salvation and my God.

## ARE YOU NEW HERE?

### WELCOME TO LIFE MISSION!

We'd love for you to **fill out a Connection Card** so we can welcome you and answer any questions you may have. You can drop it in the offering basket during the service or take it to one of our teammates at the **Connection Booth** outside. Feel free to grab some coffee and snacks in the courtyard and hang out. We hope you'll **join us next Sunday** and consider making us your church family.

### WHAT ABOUT THE KIDS?

Our childrens' ministry, which we call **Kids on Mission**, has classes for **newborns - 5th grade**. We have a great team of volunteers who have all been screened with background checks for extra security. Each week your child will get to **worship** with their class, followed by an **age-appropriate lesson** that points them towards Jesus and helps root them in the Word of God.

Visit our website to read more about the vision of Kids on Mission and a walkthrough of our curriculum. If you have any questions, email **Amber Willis at [amber@lifemission.tv](mailto:amber@lifemission.tv)**

### JUNIOR HIGH & HIGH SCHOOL

Our **6th - 8th graders** begin each Sunday by **worshipping with the adults** and then head to their classroom with their teacher and classmates for the rest of service. Visit our website to read more about our junior high ministry and a walkthrough of our curriculum.

Our **9th-12th graders stay in the service** with the adults because we believe that it is crucial for them to not "graduate the faith" when they graduate high school.

For more information about our Junior High & High School ministries, email **Tyler Willis at [tyler@lifemission.tv](mailto:tyler@lifemission.tv)**.



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## COMMUNITY GROUP HOMEWORK

Before group starts, who can share the **Memory Verse**?

Read **Ecclesiastes 4.7-16**. What stands out in this passage, and what stuck out to you most from the sermon on Sunday?

### Preaching the Gospel to Yourself

Considering these verses, plus **Genesis 2.18**, what Gospel truths can bring you a great reminder of God's love towards us as you read the Preacher's observations in this passage?

### Repent and Ask for Provision

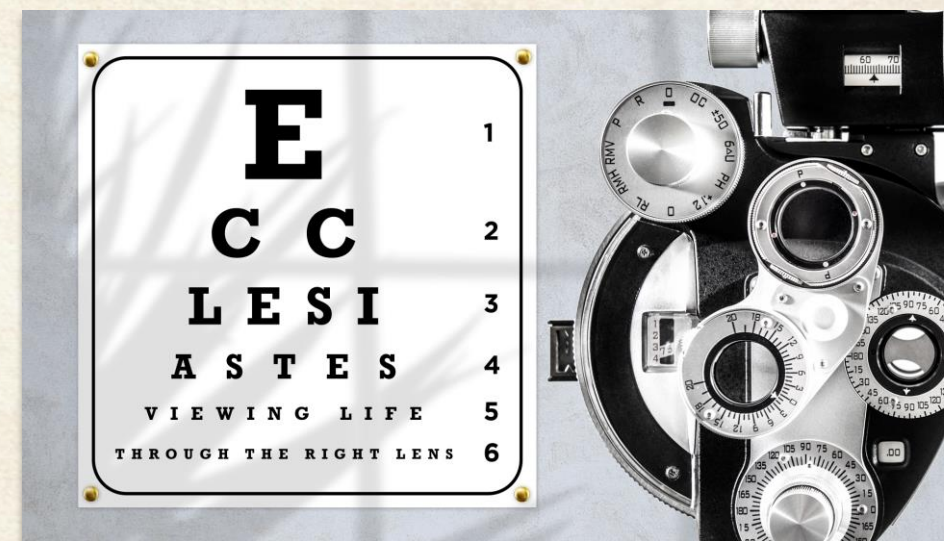
The Preacher warns against going it alone. We tend to hide, just like our first parents, Adam and Eve. We try to hide our sin, shame, and guilt, from God and others. But we simply can't live alone like that. How does the truth of the Gospel help us have the courage to repent of this hiding and come into the light with others? What might you ask God for as you aim to pursue that kind of living among others?

### Your Life Mission

God has brought specific people into your life to be encouragement and point you to Him, and also for you to be an encouragement *to*. What "Fight Club" type friendships are you pursuing in your life to both give and receive encouragement and strength for times of weakness?

What opportunities or conversations or social settings with non-believers are on the horizon or in your calendar that you could use prayer for, that you might be able to encourage them and help them find the love and strength of God? How can your group be praying for the people in your life that you love and care for?

End the evening in a time of prayer, praying through the theme of the night using the **P.R.A.Y.** model with your group. Pray for these people you have mentioned and for your heart and plan as you pursue them in love. Make sure to end your time of prayer **Yielding with Thanksgiving** for God's sovereignty and plan for your life.



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### SUNDAYS AT 10AM

Life Mission Church Meets at Classical Academy High School  
207 E Pennsylvania Ave, Escondido 92025

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