







SERMON DISCUSSION STARTERS


-  **We are incredibly individualistic people.** What choices do you make that reveal that you fall in line with that culture of independence? What motives fuel those choices? *Areas to examine would be your interaction with media, social networking, communication.*


-  **God gave us relationships to help us handle the difficulties of our sinful world.** Do you have a close friend? How have you seen God use them in your life to help you walk through a hardship? What benefits have you seen from that friendship? How has it been hard to keep that friendship close? What has threatened it?

-  **Our sinful hearts cause us to push relationships away.** Walk through the four tendencies Solomon shows us in Ecc. 4:4-8 and write down how you have seen each one keep you from enjoying the community God intends for you.
 -  Envy v4 - *the competition to be better than those around us*

 -  Laziness v5 - *the entitlement that others must give us what they have*

 -  Dissatisfaction v6 - *the perpetual unrest for something better*

 -  Work/Greed v7-8 - *the pursuit of buying instead of sharing*

-  **Why must community come to us?** Read Matt. 22:36–40, Galatians 5:14 and meditate on how our relationships will never be right with one another until they are right with God. Are you right with God? Is God showing you that your constant struggles with others is a reminder that you need to be right with him?