



## How to Handle Success

Ecclesiastes 4

6.9.24

*"Meaningless! Meaningless! Utterly meaningless! Everything is meaningless." Ecclesiastes 1:2*

*I have seen all the things that are done under the sun; all of them are meaningless, a chasing after the wind. 1:14*

### Serve those with less.

*Again, I observed all the oppression that takes place under the sun. I saw the tears of the oppressed, with no one to comfort them. The oppressors have great power, and their victims are helpless. So I concluded that the dead are better off than the living. But most fortunate of all are those who are not yet born. For they have not seen all the evil that is done under the sun. 4:1-3*

### Stop comparing.

*"Then I observed that most people are motivated to success because they envy their neighbors. But this, too, is meaningless—like chasing the wind." 4:4*

*Rejoice with those who rejoice; mourn with those who mourn. Romans 12:15*

### Put relationships over riches.

*This is the case of a man who is all alone, without a child or a brother, yet who works hard to gain as much wealth as he can. But then he asks himself, "Who am I working for? Why am I giving up so much pleasure now?" It is all so meaningless and depressing. 4:7-8*

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=T76FdtKreNQ>

*Two people are better off than one, for they can help each other succeed. If one person falls, the other can reach out and help. But someone who falls alone is in real trouble. Likewise, two people lying close together can keep each other warm. But how can one be warm alone? 4:11*

*A person standing alone can be attacked and defeated, but two can stand back-to-back and conquer. Three are even better, for a triple-braided cord is not easily broken. 4:12*

### Find what really matters in life and get involved in that.

*It is better to be a poor but wise youth than an old and foolish king who refuses all advice. Such a youth could rise from poverty and succeed. He might even become king, though he has been in prison. But then everyone rushes to the side of yet another youth who replaces him.*

*Endless crowds stand around him, but then another generation grows up and forgets him, too. So it is all meaningless—like chasing the wind. 4:13-16*

*I once thought these things were valuable, but now I consider them worthless because of what Christ has done. Yes, everything else is worthless when compared with the infinite value of knowing Christ Jesus my Lord.*

*For his sake I have discarded everything else, counting it all as nothing, so that I could gain Christ and become one with him. Philippians 3:7-9*

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*If you'd like to grow in your faith and connect with others, LifeGroups are a great place for you. For more information, go to our website (marinerscc.org) or fill out the blue card in the seat in front of you and write "Life Group."*



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