

# ECCLESIASTES 4:1-16 & 5:18-6:12

A CCS Resource  
for Parents & Carers



FOR OLDER KIDS  
& TEENS

## STOP TRYING TO WIN FOR YOURSELF



### KEY POINT:

God wants us to have happy lives now - being thankful for the good things He's given and loving others.



- What are the things you work and train hard at?
- Why do you work and train hard?
- If there's anything you could be the best at what would it be?
- Why do you want to be the best at that?



**PRAY** for God's help as you come to His Word  
**READ** [ECCLESIASTES 4:1-16 & 5:18-6:12](#)



1. What two reasons are we given in Eccl. 4v4 and 6v7 for why people work hard? *Envy of others and greed.*
2. The conclusion in the passage is that people live out of envy and greed. We see this in Eccl. 4v3 and 6v3. What is the conclusion? *It is better to not have been born than to live in a world like this.*
3. How do you feel about this conclusion?
4. How do the snapshots of those at the bottom of society (4v1) and those at the top (6v2) help you see why Ecclesiastes makes this conclusion? *They show us that whether you are at the top or the bottom, everyone loses when we live for ourselves*
  - You can also have a look at 4v5, 4v7-8, 4v13-15, 5v8, 5v13-15.
  - How do these snapshots add to the picture of life in this world? *Loving yourself can look like being lazy or working very hard. These snapshots show us that because people are greedy and do things out of envy everyone gets hurt and no one ends up winning in life.*
5. Look at 4v6, 4v9-12, 4v13, 5v12, 5v18-20. How do these show us what it looks like to live a happy life now? *Essentially it looks like being content and grateful for what we have and loving others.*
6. Why is living with gratitude and loving others the way to be happy in this life now? *It means we don't live for ourselves which in the end means we will not gain anything that lasts.*
7. Read Matthew 6v25-34 and Luke 9v21-26. What reasons does Jesus give that help us to live a life of contentment, gratitude and loving others? *God our Heavenly Father knows our needs. Jesus died so we can live forever with him. In response we should deny ourselves and love others.*
8. In what ways can you ensure that you show God you are grateful for the good things He has given you, and love others?



1. Are there any areas or times, in your life when you acted out of greed or envy that you need to repent of?
3. How does this passage help you to reassess how you should live your life to be happy now?



**Thank** God that He is good and loves us and wants us to live happy lives now. **Thank** Him for telling us how to live and not live to be happy. **Pray** and ask that He would help you to be grateful for all the good things He has given you and to love others.