

Ecclesiastes

The Search for Meaning

The Rat Race

Ecclesiastes 4:1-16

The rat race produces destructive drives.

Power to oppress

- Better: Liberation

Push to succeed

- Better: Limited success with contentment

Piling up wealth

- Better: Relationships

Pull of popularity

- Better: Wisdom

Download “*The Rat Race*,” 5th in the *Ecclesiastes* series (06/17/12) free, or share it via email, Facebook or Twitter at hcbc.com/media. You may also purchase a CD at the Resource Center in the East Lobby.

My Application

Use the following questions this week to reflect on what it would mean to align yourself with the truths taught in Scripture. Each question is meant for both personal reflection and as a catalyst for discussion with your family, friends, or small group.

- 1) Pick up the local newspaper and look at the state of the world. Can you see the oppression? People in power tend to abuse it. Why?
- 2) Contentment is the key to happiness. See 1 Timothy 6:6-10. Are you currently content with what God has given you? Do you find time to rest?
- 3) People are better than things. See 4:7-12. Do you have close friendships? How much time and effort goes into your relationships?
- 4) What would popularity look like in your world? How do you resist this temptation?

Memory Verse
Ecclesiastes 4:9

“Two are better than one, because they have a good return for their work.”