

Disordered Relationships

Disordered Relationships with _____

4:1-16

- **Misuse of power (4:1-3, 13-16):**
 - Solomon laments that people in power are oppressing those under them.
 - He also laments the way he sees power succeed from one king to the next.
 - *Our human rulers often become corrupted by power, but _____ never will.*
- **Choosing work over community (4:4-8):**
 - Solomon takes a deeper look at why people are working so hard and sees envy at the root.
 - Envy builds a barrier between us and our neighbor as we begin to see them as nothing more than _____.
 - Solomon also laments the ultimate loneliness of toil and discontentment.
 - *The Lord wants us to be content with what we have, because what we have is HIM and He will never leave us.*

Antidote: Community and accountability (4:9-12)

*Who in your life to helps hold you accountable to follow Christ
and to treat others as He teaches?*

Disordered Relationships with _____

5:1-7

- **Trying to manipulate Him:**
 - Solomon laments the way people come to worship carelessly, making rash vows to the Lord and then not following through with them.
 - They're performing all the outward signs of faith without any real faith or love for God in their hearts.
 - *The Lord doesn't want us to simply perform all the right actions, but to obey out of worship from a heart that loves Him.*

Antidote: Watch your words and fear God (5:2b and 5:7b)

*How do you talk to God? How do you listen to God?
How can you grow in your respect and awe of Him?*

1 Kings 9-12

In these chapters, you can read about Solomon's great wealth and power, as well as his use of forced labor, the ways in which he disobeyed the Lord, and how the kingdom fell apart after him.

Jeremiah 23:5

"Behold, the days are coming, declares the LORD, when I will raise up for David a righteous Branch, and he shall reign as king and deal wisely, and shall execute justice and righteousness in the land."

1 Timothy 6:15

"...which he will display at the proper time—he who is the blessed and only Sovereign, the King of kings and Lord of lords..."

Revelation 15:3

And they sing the song of Moses, the servant of God, and the song of the Lamb, saying, "Great and amazing are your deeds, O Lord God the Almighty! Just and true are your ways, O King of the nations!"

1 Corinthians 13:4

"Love is patient and kind; love does not envy or boast; it is not arrogant..."

1 Peter 2:1

So put away all malice and all deceit and hypocrisy and envy and all slander.

Hebrews 13:5

Keep your life free from love of money, and be content with what you have, for he has said, "I will never leave you nor forsake you."

1 Peter 2:9-10

But you are a chosen race, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, a people for his own possession, that you may proclaim the excellencies of him who called you out of darkness into his marvelous light. Once you were not a people, but now you are God's people; once you had not received mercy, but now you have received mercy.

Hosea 6:6

For I desire steadfast love and not sacrifice, the knowledge of God rather than burnt offerings.