

## Follow up Questions from message on Sunday, January 8, 2017

### Staging Life “The Props of Er”

#### Reread Ecclesiastes 4:4-8

1. Do you have any New Year resolutions that have to do with having more ‘er’; i.e. stronger, richer, skinnier, happier?
2. Pr. Jon opened this series with a story from Jr. High about our inclination to compare ourselves with one another. Do you remember a time in your life when the tendency to compare yourself with others was important? How did it help you? Hinder you?
3. The phrase “no win in comparison” means what?
4. How does envy and jealousy have the potential to hurt others?
5. Eccl: 4:6 *Better is a handful with quiet than two handfuls with toil, and a chasing after wind.* What do you think that means?
6. Two handfuls leads to discontentment because as soon as we wrap both “our hands” around everything we can get, we see more we want. True or false? Why?
7. In the sermon Pr. Jon said, living with “one hand open” implies that God can put into it and take out of it as he chooses.” When was the last time you felt that spiritual dynamic with God?
8. Jesus considered his heavenly father as his mirror, his audience. The key question we need to ask ourselves is “what am I going to use as a reference point to assure me that I’m doing alright?”
9. How can you make God that reference point, that is, what habits might nurture your relationship with God so that your ambition won’t slip into the comparison thing?