

***The Better Path***  
**Ecclesiastes 4:4-16**

Main Point:

While there are many paths you can take in life, make sure you choose the better path that Jesus has for you.

1. It's better to be content than envious.
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
2. It's better to be in community than by yourself.
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
3. It's better to be teachable than prideful.
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
4. Because this is the better path that Jesus has for His disciples.

**Philip Ryken** “Here the Preacher points out that much of our work is motivated by ... the sinful desire to get ahead in life by getting ahead of other people.”

**Proverbs 6:10-11** 10 A little sleep, a little slumber, A little folding of the hands to sleep— 11 So shall your poverty come on you like a prowler, And your need like an armed man. (NKJV)

**Philippians 4:11-12** 11 Not that I speak in regard to need, for I have learned in whatever state I am, to be content: 12 I know how to be abased, and I know how to abound. Everywhere and in all things I have learned both to be full and to be hungry, both to abound and to suffer need. (NKJV)

**Philip Ryken** “The ‘buddy system’ is not just for school field trips and swimming in the ocean; it is God’s plan for our life and service to him. It has been this way since the beginning, when God created Adam and said, ‘It is not good that the man should be alone’ (Genesis 2:18).”

**Douglas Sean O’Donnell** “Fellowship is more than sharing a cup of coffee after the service; it is sharing life together - sharing sorrows, fears, and pains - so that together we might fight the good fight ...”

**Gordon Keddie** “Quality as opposed to quantity ... [is what makes] this companionship a profound blessing for those who enjoy it.”

**1 Corinthians 12:20-21** 20 But now indeed *there are* many members, yet one body. 21 And the eye cannot say to the hand, “I have no need of you”; nor again the head to the feet, “I have no need of you.” (NKJV)

**Philip Ryken** “The story stands as a warning to older Christians. We usually think that gray hair brings wisdom, and often it does. But whether they are young or old, the wisest Christians are the ones who listen to counsel and, if necessary, accept correction.”

**Proverbs 15:32** 32 He who disdains instruction despises his own soul, But he who heeds rebuke gets understanding. (NKJV)

**Benjamin Shaw** “Solomon speaks as Christ to the people of God ... So what we hear in the book is the voice of Christ.”