

Midweek Study Lesson Questions 01/14/2026

Sunday January 11, 2026

A Union that is Not Easily Broken, Ecclesiastes 4:9-12

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I. Getting to Know “Yourself”

The sermon repeatedly contrasted isolation (shame/pride) with agreement. Where in your life did you see the need for intentional togetherness rather than accidental company?

Explain the following points from Sunday’s sermon.

There is power in agreement. –

Agreement is key in the Body of Christ. –

Is agreement merely having the same opinion, or is it something else? Be specific about what agreement looks like biblically.

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Observation Question

Verse 10 says, "Woe to him who is alone when he falls." What does the passage describe will (and will not) happen for the person who falls alone?

Interpretation Question

The sermon named shame, pride, and judgmentalism as devices that keep people isolated. How does Ecclesiastes 4:9–12 inform a response to those devices? What part does community play in exposing or healing shame?

Application Question

If a brother or sister confesses a struggle to you, how will you respond in a spirit of restoration rather than judgment?

AMMO

Amos 3:3 Can two walk together, except they be agreed?

Genesis 2:18 And the LORD God said, *It is* not good that the man should be alone; I will make him an help meet for him.

MORE AMMO

Hebrews 10:25 Not forsaking the assembling of ourselves together, as the manner of some *is*; but exhorting *one another*: and so much the more, as ye see the day approaching.

Matthew 18:19 Again I say unto you, That if two of you shall agree on earth as touching any thing that they shall ask, it shall be done for them of my Father which is in heaven.

20 For where two or three are gathered together in my name, there am I in the midst of them.

Philippians 2:10 That at the name of Jesus every knee should bow, of *things* in heaven, and *things* in earth, and *things* under the earth;

11 And *that* every tongue should confess that Jesus Christ *is* Lord, to the glory of God the Father.

SERMON SUMMARY

We walked through Ecclesiastes 4:9-12 and faced the lie that isolation is safer. In trouble, pride and shame push us into hiding, but the Word calls us into a union that is not easily broken. Freedom is not a feeling; it is an action. If we do not act on freedom, we live imprisoned by habits of secrecy and self-reliance. God made us for agreement—Amos 3:3 asks if two can walk together unless they agree. Jesus sent the disciples two by two for this very reason: shared labor, shared strength, shared courage.

Agreement is not forced sameness; it is a shared submission to God's Word and God's mission. When one falls, the other lifts. When life grows cold, we keep one another warm. Hebrews 10 tells us not to forsake gathering, and Matthew 18 reminds us that when we agree in prayer, the Father moves. Agreement centers Jesus in our midst; He is the third strand in the cord, the Advocate who binds us and gives strength we do not have alone.

We also named what breaks cords: divisive judgment, spiritual arrogance, trendy noise that drowns out truth. Many are defeated in silence because they fear our eyes more than they trust our help. This must change. Romans 15 calls the strong to bear the weak. Galatians 6 calls the spiritual to restore with gentleness, remembering our own fragility. Ephesians 4 declares one Lord, one faith, one baptism—one body, not competing brands.

So the speaker called us to a simple, costly practice: agree around Jesus and His Word; stand shoulder to shoulder; refuse the devil's devices of shame and offense; carry one another's burdens; pray in unity; and keep our hands on the work that actually saves. Let us leave the ninety-nine for the one, not with empty viral words but with steady truth, warm presence, and a grip that won't let go. There is power in agreement. A threefold cord is not quickly broken.

Key Takeaways

- Agreement resists isolation and shame.

Agreement is the choice to step out of hiding and into shared light. It exposes the devil's tactic of keeping us alone long enough to convince us we cannot change. When we agree around the Word, we create a safe place for confession, correction, and courage. Freedom grows where shame loses its secrecy.

- Two lift when one falls.

Real community assumes falls will happen and prepares a plan to lift, not to gossip. We train for this by practicing presence, not just opinions. The bench feels lighter when someone spots you; the soul does too. We are called to be that steady spotter for one another.

- Jesus is the third strand.

Our unity is not sentimental; it is Christ-centered. Agreement in His name invites His advocacy, authority, and nearness. When Jesus is in the middle, the cord holds under pressure that would snap mere preference. He binds us beyond mood, trend, and offense.

- Restore gently; refuse arrogant judgment.

Gentleness is not softness on sin; it is strength under control, aware of our own weakness. Harshness may win arguments but loses people. Restoration requires humility, patience, and proximity. We carry burdens until the brother or sister can carry again.

- Unity fuels a faithful witness.

A divided church preaches a divided gospel. When we agree on truth and live it together, our words gain weight. The world recognizes Jesus when His people refuse to fracture. Steadfast, shared obedience becomes its own testimony.