

Text: Ecclesiastes 4:1-16  
Topics: Contentedness, Motivations, Work  
Series: Ecclesiastes: Words to the Wise

Monroe Bible Church  
June 16, 2019  
Pastor Dan Krahenbuhl

---

## Work: Maddening, or Meaningful?

Finding happiness in one's work in life can be very elusive!

### I. Under the Oppressor (1-3)

### II. Under the Self (4-16)

Vss. 4-6.

Vss. 7-12.

Vss. 13-16.

Are any of these things affecting me in my work?

### III. Under the Savior there is rescue and relief!

Application Questions - *These questions are provided for your further study and application of the subject of today's message. Thoughtfully writing out answers to these questions will help drive home the point. They are designed to be discussed in your home, with other believers, and in a Life Group, for even more benefit.*

1. Whether your work is in the home or the marketplace, are there aspects of your work that help make it meaningful? Are there aspects that are maddening? Explain.

2. What do you have control over, and not control over in your work? Does what you do not have control over, affect your attitude toward your work?

3. Jealousy of others can hinder our ability to be content in our work. Read James 4:1-5. What results of jealousy are pointed out in this passage?

Do you see any jealousy or envy within you? Do you see any results of it?

4. Ambition can be a good thing (John 4:34), but also a bad thing. What does James 3:13-17 say about selfish ambition?

Do you see any selfish ambition within you? Do you see any results of it?

5. Unfortunately, the workaholic is often rewarded in society, which can drive a person further into it. What effect do you think workaholicism has on a person's ability to enjoy their work?

What would you say to the workaholic to help them? Does any helpful Scripture come to mind? How might Psalm 55:1-3 or Matthew 11:28-30 help?

6. What is the main application of this study, and/or the sermon and its passages, for you?