

Stronger Together - The Secured Life

Ecclesiastes 4:9-12

Big Idea: We are stronger together as we do good to one another, pray for one another, and encourage one another to find our security in Jesus Christ.

Ecclesiastes 4:10, 12a - For if they fall, one will lift up his fellow. But woe to him who is alone when he falls and has not another to lift him up! ... And though a man might prevail against one who is alone, two will withstand him

1. The Myth of Personal Safety

- **Both our experience and God's Word inform us that our safety on earth is not guaranteed.**

Experience

- But ultimately, our personal safety is a myth. We can do everything in our power to minimize risk and maximize safety, but we cannot **secure** or **guarantee** our personal safety and security.
- Piper: "Putting on your seatbelt will not prevent a heart attack."

Scripture

- **James 4:13-16**
- **John 16:33**
- **1 Peter 4:12**

Don't be reckless!

2. A Secured Life

- **Life is ultimately secured in the hands of a sovereign and loving God.**
- **John 10:29**
- **John 6:39-40**

Sovereign

- **Matthew 19:26**
- **Ps 115:3**
- **Lamentations 3:37**

Loving

- God's love means that God eternally gives of himself to others. Grudem
- **1 John 4:16**

3. How does this make us Stronger Together?

- We are stronger together when, in the midst of trials, we encourage, pray for, and do good to one another.

Do Good

Galatians 6:10

Pray

- **Romans 15:30-32**
- **Wrestle and rest** – this will make us stronger together

Encourage

- Encourage daily:
- **Hebrews 3:12-13**
- **Hebrews 10:24-25**
 - Preach the Gospel – Martin Luther: *“Here I must take counsel of the gospel. I must hearken to the gospel, which teacheth me, not what I ought to do, (for that is the proper office of the law), but what Jesus Christ the Son of God hath done for me: to wit, that He suffered and died to deliver me from sin and death. The gospel willeth me to receive this, and to believe it. And this is the truth of the gospel. It is also the principal article of all Christian doctrine, wherein the knowledge of all godliness consisteth. Most necessary it is, therefore, that we should know this article well, teach it unto others, and beat it into their heads continually.”*
 - Be gospel hammers – true encouragement comes as we exhort each other with God's ultimate display of sovereignty and love—the good news of Jesus Christ.