

Getting Started

What were your childhood ambitions? Have you been able to achieve them?

What’s your experience with the *happiness curve*? Does it ring true that in middle age we’re less satisfied than in our 20s or 60s? What do you think?

Into the Bible

Read Genesis 25:27-34. What does this short story tell you about the ambitions of Jacob and Esau?

In what ways were their different ambitions both godly and sinful?

According to these passages, whom did David have to fight to keep hold of his power (in most cases, the heading will give you all you need)? How long was he at war?

1 Samuel 17:1

1 Samuel 19:1

2 Samuel 2:8

2 Samuel 5:6

2 Samuel 11:1

2 Samuel 18:6, 9

1 Kings 1:1

Read 2 Samuel 7:1. David moved from peace back to war. How do you suppose he felt about always being drawn into conflict.

Read Ecclesiastes 1:2-11. Have you ever felt like life was just an endless cycle? Describe what that feels like?

What comfort does Matthew 11:28 offer in the toil of life? How is that helpful as you negotiate that toil?

According to Ecclesiastes 8:15 and 12:1, what’s the key to finding contentment in life?

Digging Deeper

Do you really savor life? Do taste all the flavors in your food or wolf it down? Enjoy a warm evening or think about all the things you *should* be doing? Spend time with friends without watching the clock?

How can you incorporate more of that savor into your life?