

## YOU CAN BE HAPPY

*There's a Better Life- Part 2*

*“I thought in my heart, ‘Come now, I will test you with pleasure to find out what is good.’ But that also was meaningless... And I undertook great projects: I built houses for myself and planted vineyards. I made gardens and parks and planted all kinds of fruit trees in them. I made reservoirs to water groves of flourishing trees. I bought male and female slaves who were born in my house. I also owned more herds and flocks than anyone in Jerusalem before me. I amassed silver and gold for myself, and the treasure of kings and provinces. I acquired men and women singers, and a harem as well – the delights of the heart of man... I denied myself nothing my eyes desired; I refused my heart no pleasure. My heart took delight in all my work, and this was the reward for all my labor...”*

Ecclesiastes 2:1-10 (NIV)

### 1. BREAK THE CONNECTION BETWEEN TEMPORARY PLEASURE AND LASTING HAPPINESS.

*“By faith Moses, when he had grown up, refused to be called the son of Pharaoh’s daughter; choosing rather to endure ill treatment with the people of God, than to enjoy the passing pleasures of sin...”*

Hebrews 11:24, 25 (NAS)

*“[The one] who lives for pleasure is dead even while [he] lives.”*

1 Timothy 5:6 (NIV)

### 2. BREAK THE CONNECTION BETWEEN WHAT YOU DO AND WHO YOU ARE.

*“Then I took a good look at everything I’d done, looked at all the sweat and hard work. But when I looked, I saw nothing but smoke; smoke and spitting into the wind. There was nothing to any of it. Nothing.”*

Ecclesiastes 2:11 (MSG)

### 3. BREAK THE CONNECTION BETWEEN YOUR CIRCUMSTANCE AND YOUR CHARACTER.

*“Happy are you when men hate you and when they exclude you and insult you and reject your name as evil because of the Son of Man...”*

Luke 6:22 (NIV)

*“Even if you should suffer for what is right, you are blessed.”*

1 Peter 3:14 (NIV)

