The Vanity of “Me”
Ecclesiastes Ch. 4-6

Why looking out for number one doesn’t satisfy:
1. The prosperous life “alone” is vanity
   Envy is vanity (4:4)
   Greed is vanity (4:5-6; 5:10-12)
   Power, Fame, and Influence is vanity (4:13-16)
   Financial security is vanity (5:13-17; 6:1-2)

2. The self-focused life “alone” is vanity
   Chasing the “dream” without others is vanity (4:7-8)
   We were made to experience joy in community (4:9-12)

3. The finite life “alone” is vanity

   “Man is merely an accident, whose number came up on the universal roulette wheel. There is no meaning to anything. Everything is ultimately absurd and meaningless.” – Jacques Monod

   “No finite point has meaning without an infinite reference point.” – Jean-Paul Sartre

   True joy is only found in contentment with God (5:18-20)

Philippians 4:11-13

Apart from God contentment cannot be found (6:3-9)
Fearing God is the ultimate answer to life’s vanity (6:10-12)

Philippians 4:19