

Community Group Study Guide

Sermon Series - The Way of Wisdom

Sermon Date - Nov 22, 2009

Warm-up:

1. What do you think are some of the qualities of a good relationship?
2. When have you been hurt by a friend? What were the circumstances?

Read Proverbs 10:18; 11:12-13; 17:9; 24:17-18, 28-29; 25:7b-10, 21-22; 27:5-6

1. How do these passages relate to relationships?
2. What is your reaction when you read or heard these passages?
3. What are some key phrases or words that you see in these passages?
4. What are some of the positive qualities or ideas that you heard in these verses? What are some of the negative ones?
5. What do you think of the Prov 11 passage? How can we guard our tongues? What should we do when we encounter a gossip?
6. How does the Prov 24:17-18 passage run counter to our culture? What can we learn from this?
7. Drilling a little deeper - what do you feel is the root cause of most of the discord in relationships?
8. How should we treat those that wrong us (Prov 25:21-22)? Do you agree with this? What is our usual reaction? What does Jesus teach?
9. What are your thoughts on the Prov 27 passage? How have these ideals been misused? Have you ever been wounded because someone "spoke the truth to you in love?"
10. What do you think the main point of these passages? How would you summarize the passages?
11. Are these ideas (peace, patience) embraced in the culture? Why or why not?

Apply: In this section, our goal is to determine how to integrate what you've studied into your life.

1. Based on these passages, what changes do you feel you need to make in your life?
2. What are some practical steps you can take to maintain and nurture relationships that you are in?
3. What should our response be to one that hurts us?
4. How can your group encourage you? How can you encourage others?
5. How can this group pray for you?