

Growth Group Lesson: January 27-28, 2024

Title: Proverbs: Wisdom for Life, Pt 4 “Speak for the Speechless” – Proverbs 31:8-9

Big Idea: Value life by opening your mouth, judging righteously, and defending the rights.

What in the message stood out to you?

What questions do you have?

I. OPEN YOUR MOUTH.

One of the most powerful ways we can open our mouths is in prayer to our God. Spend some time in prayer together, interceding on behalf of the mute, destitute, poor, and needy.

What are some specific ways that you can speak for those who cannot speak for themselves?

How can you speak the truth of the Gospel to those in your sphere of influence?

II. JUDGE RIGHTEOUSLY.

In what ways are you tempted to judge others unfairly?

What can you do to seek understanding with those you're tempted to misjudge?

Read Psalm 139:13-18. What does this passage teach us about God? What does this passage teach us about ourselves? How should these truths shape how we treat others?

III. DEFEND THE RIGHTS.

How did Jesus model this for us?

What are some practical ways that you can defend the rights of others?

Jesus was intentional in his compassion and love towards those around him. What do you need to do to love those in front of you? (think of your family, neighbors, coworkers)

Do you know someone who has been impacted by abortion?

How can you be a ministry of compassion towards them?

“Next Steps” Takeaways – Discuss and pray through the following:

With God:

- Spend time in prayer this week for the following:
 - o Confession for the ways that you may have neglected to speak and defend those who needed your voice.
 - o Thank the LORD for his grace and forgiveness towards us.
 - o Pray that the LORD would show you the good works that he's prepared for you. Ask him how you can be faithful in ministering to those at risk.

With Others:

- Consider volunteering with one of the ministries that are engaged in this work of speaking for the speechless. (GSCC Disabled Ministry, Obria, Garden of Hope, a local Pregnancy Resource Center, or First Image)
- Consider how you might partner with an organization like Safe Families.
- Enter our Continuing Together Covenant as we seek to be a community that lovingly encourages and strengthens one another.

On Mission:

- Would you consider and pray about how the LORD is calling you to respond to our special offering?
- Who is someone that you've hesitated to talk to and understand? Reach out to them this week for a meal/coffee and ask them about their story and background.