

Title: Wisdom for Life: The Book of Proverbs, Pt 8: “Agree to Disagree...Agreeably” – Proverbs 15:1

Big Idea: Master the ART of how to Agree to Disagree...Agreeably.

What in the message stood out to you?

What questions do you have?

1. Two ways...two paths

Read Proverbs 14:12 and Proverbs 3:5-8. Where does the wisdom of man lead? Where does the wisdom of God lead?

What do you think it means to TRUST God? What does it mean to “acknowledge Him” in “all your ways?”

What are some examples of what it might look like to trust God and acknowledge Him when it comes to relationships and especially conflict in relationships?

We are told that Jesus embodies and reveals the wisdom of God in all things (1 Cor. 1:24, 1 Cor. 1:30, Col. 2:2-23). What have you experienced in your relationship with Jesus when you have disappointed Him in some way? What can you learn from this for your relationships with others?

2. Wisdom for DISAGREEMENTS – Proverbs 15:1

Read Proverbs 15:1 and Ephesians 4:26-27. These verses imply a disagreement or disappointment of some kind with the potential to cause unhealthy and sinful conflict in a relationship. What do you think is the difference between healthy conflict and unhealthy sinful conflict?

What is the heart behind a “soft answer?” What is the heart behind a “harsh word?”

How would trusting Jesus enable you to give a “soft answer” instead of a “harsh word?”

How does unhealthy conflict give an opportunity to the devil?

3. The SOURCE and FRUIT of wisdom for disagreements – Proverbs 10:11

Read Proverbs 10:11. What does it mean for your mouth to be “a fountain of life?” What does it mean for a mouth to “conceal violence?”

Share an example of a time when someone handled conflict with you in a way that was healthy and healing? Share an example of a time when someone handled conflict with you in a way that was unhealthy and painful? What made the difference?

A “fountain” always has a source. Read Galatians 5:19-26. How are unhealthy relationships described in these verses? How are healthy relationships described in these verses? What is the source of each?

4. Pursue PEACE!

Read Romans 12:18. What does it mean to live at peace with someone? Does this mean that you never have disagreements? Why or why not?

Read Proverbs 15:18. What does it mean to be “hot-tempered?” What does it mean to be “slow to anger?”

Read Proverbs 22:24-25. Based on these verses, does living at peace always mean maintaining a relationship with someone? What thoughts or questions do you have regarding this?

Read Proverbs 18:21. What does it mean that death and life are in the power of the tongue? How have you experienced this?

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

- With God:
 - Will you trust God’s wisdom for your relationships and acknowledge Him in every circumstance?
 - Will you repent and receive forgiveness for any circumstances in your relationships where you have not trusted Him?
- With Others:
 - Will you seek forgiveness for hurtful words you have spoken to others?
 - I was wrong when I _____.
 - I’m sorry. It grieves me that I spoke to you like that.
 - Could you find it in your heart to forgive me? (I’ve asked Jesus to forgive me, and now I’m asking you for your forgiveness).
 - If you are married, will you attend the upcoming Marriage Conference at Good Shepherd to strengthen your marriage?
- On Mission:
 - Will you ask the Lord to help you be a life-giving voice to those around you? Use your words to give LIFE.