

Growth Group Lesson: February 3-4, 2024

Title: Proverbs: Wisdom for Friendship

Big Idea: Godly friendship protects, corrects, and connects.

What in the message stood out to you?

What questions do you have?

Did God prompt a response from the message?

1. GODLY FRIENDSHIP PROTECTS

Prov 18:24

Proverbs 22:24-25

Proverbs 13:20

Proverbs 16:28

Proverbs 12:26

What is the warning in each of these Proverbs?

How have you seen this in your own or others lives?

Have you ever been the foolish friend who has led others astray?

2. GODLY FRIENDSHIP CORRECTS

Proverbs 27:6

Proverbs 27:9

Proverbs 27:17

Do you have this level of caring corrective friendship in your life?

What is a time when you either received or gave wounds to a friend?

How are you doing at receiving correction?

3. GODLY FRIENDSHIP CONNECTS

Think through the Gospels about all the different types of people that Jesus was friends with.

When have you felt especially welcomed into an existing friend group?

Think on the quote from CS Lewis

“In each of my friends there is something that only some other friend can fully bring out. By myself I am not large enough to call the whole man into activity; I want other lights than my own to show all his facets. Now that Charles is dead, I shall never again see Ronald’s [Tolkien’s] reaction to a specifically Charles joke. Far from having more of Ronald, having him ‘to myself’ now that Charles is away, I have less of Ronald. Hence true Friendship is the least jealous of loves. Two friends delight to be joined by a third, and three by a fourth, if only the newcomer is qualified to become a real friend. They can then say, as the blessed souls say in Dante, ‘Here comes one who will augment our loves.’”

Are there opportunities to be “joined by a third, and three by a fourth” in your own life?

Next Steps

With God

Evaluation: spend time in prayer asking God for the right close friends to be in your life and to examine your own character to make sure you are the type of friend that you want to have.

With Others

Join A Group

On Mission

Look for ways to practice Generous Friendship.