

Scripture this week:

Proverbs 27:1-10

¹ Do not boast about tomorrow, for you do not know what a day may bring. ² Let another praise you, and not your own mouth; a stranger, and not your own lips.

³ A stone is heavy, and sand is weighty, but a fool's provocation is heavier than both. ⁴ Wrath is cruel, anger is overwhelming, but who can stand before jealousy? ⁵ Better is open rebuke than hidden love.

⁶ Faithful are the wounds of a friend; profuse are the kisses of an enemy. ⁷ One who is full loathes honey, but to one who is hungry everything bitter is sweet.

⁸ Like a bird that strays from its nest is a man who strays from his home. ⁹ Oil and perfume make the heart glad, and the sweetness of a friend comes from his earnest counsel. ¹⁰ Do not forsake your friend and your father's friend, and do not go to your brother's house in the day of your calamity. Better is a neighbor who is near than a brother who is far away.

Overcoming Loneliness: Yours, Mine and Ours

Proverbs 27:1-10

Todd Chapman- September 20, 2020

The key to not being lonely is possessing and looking for friends that have godly qualities of healthy friendships. Being a friend is the key to having friends.

1) Genuinely Humble

2) Not Irritating

3) Lovingly Candid

4) Devoted to Spouse

5) Dedicated to Friends

Notes:

Life Group Discussion Questions

Based on Proverbs 27:1-10

Getting Started

1. Think of your closest friends through the years. What are a few qualities that you have appreciated most about them?
2. Have you found developing good friendships harder or easier as you've gotten older? Why?

Digging into the Text

3. Read Proverbs 27:1-10 and respond to these questions:
 - What is the overarching theme of these verses?
 - What character qualities is the author encouraging people to develop in order to have quality relationships/ friendships?
 - In what ways do you think someone's connection to God is essential in bringing about those positive character qualities?
 - Based on these verses, what are some telltale signs of someone who is wise and someone who is foolish?
 - What are some specific traits or practices of good friends?
 - Based on this passage, what are the benefits of having close friends? Or, said differently, what are the dangers of not having them?

Applying It to My Life

4. Being honest, would you describe yourself as a good friend to others in your life? Why or why not?
5. What is a step you can take this week to be a better friend to someone in your life?
6. How can the group be praying for you as we all seek to form and foster godly relationships?