

OCTOBER 31ST 2021

WISDOM FOR CHALLENGING RELATIONSHIPS

Proverbs:15:1-4; 17-18; 23; 16:18-19; 24:29; 28:13



DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

- Icebreaker: What makes certain relationships challenging for you? What is it about them that makes them complicated or difficult to engage with? Does something get under your skin or trigger you with certain people?
- Reflect on 15:1-4 together. What stands out to you in this passage? How can a gentle tongue heal and navigate tough relationships? Why do you think the tree of life imagery is used here?
- What does it mean to have a transactional relationship? What does it mean to have a transformational relationship?
- Have someone read Proverbs 16:18-19? What is this proverb talking about? Why is it better to be of a lowly spirit with the poor than divide the spoil with the proud?
- Have someone read Proverbs 24:29. What is this proverb describing? How does this play out in relationships? Why do we feel the need to "get revenge" or to "get even?" Have you ever been in a situation like this before?
- How does Jesus deal with challenging relationships? Reflect on how the Father reconciles us to him through the Son.
- Take some time to pray with your groups about difficult relationships in your life, whether in family, among co-workers, or friends. Where can you invite the Holy Spirit to heal and convict? Don't be afraid to be vulnerable! This is a safe space!

Memory Verse: **Proverbs 15:1-4**

"A soft answer turns away wrath, but a harsh word stirs up anger. The tongue of the wise commends knowledge, but the mouths of fools pour out folly. The eyes of the Lord are in every place, keeping watch on the evil and the good. A gentle tongue is a tree of life, but perverseness in it breaks the spirit."