

High Point Bible Study
June 1, 2016
“Wisdom for Relationships”
Various Proverbs

I. Choose Associates Carefully

- A. Associating with the Wise** *“The one who walks with the wise will become wise, but a companion of fools will suffer harm.”* (13:20)
- B. Associating with the Faithful** *“Don’t those who plan evil go astray? But those who plan good find loyalty and faithfulness.”* (14:22)

II. Cultivate Patience (14:17, 29; 15:18; 16:32; 19:11)

A. Problems of the Impatient

- 1. Acts Foolish *“A quick-tempered man acts foolishly, and a man who schemes is hated.”* (14:17)
- 2. Promotes Foolishness *“A patient person shows great understanding, but a quick-tempered one promotes foolishness.”* (14:29)
- 3. Stirs up Conflict *“A hot-tempered man stirs up conflict, but a man slow to anger calms strife.”* (15:18)

B. Benefits of Patience

- 1. Anger Management *“Patience is better than power, and controlling one’s temper, than capturing a city.”* (16:32) *“Controlling one’s temper”* is a sign of trusting God.
- 2. Bearing With One Another *“A person’s insight gives him patience, and his virtue is to overlook an offense.”* (19:11)

III. Communicate Loyalty and Love (3:3-4; 16:6; 20:6; 10:12; 11:17; 15:17; 17:17; 18:24; 27:9)

- A. **Admiration** *“Never let loyalty and faithfulness leave you. Tie them around your neck; write them on the tablet of your heart. Then you will find favor and high regard in the sight of God and man.”* (3:3-4)
- B. **Atoning Attitudes** *“Wickedness is atoned for by loyalty and faithfulness, and one turns from evil by the fear of the Lord.”* (16:6) *“Hatred stirs up conflicts, but love covers all offenses.”* (10:12)
- C. **Actions Speak Louder than Words** *“Many a man proclaims his own loyalty, but who can find a trustworthy man?”* (20:6) *“A kind man benefits himself, but a cruel man brings disaster on himself.”* (11:17)
- D. **Attributes of Love and Friendship**
1. **Satisfaction** *“Better a meal of vegetables where there is love than a fattened ox with hatred.”* (15:17)
 2. **Comfort** *“A friend loves at all times, and a brother is born for a difficult time.”* (17:17)
 3. **Security** *“A man with many friends may be harmed, but there is a friend who stays closer than a brother.”* (18:24)
 4. **Wise Counsel** *“Oil and incense bring joy to the heart, and the sweetness of a friend is better than self-counsel.”* (27:9) Ecclesiastes 4:9 ff. says that *“two are better than one”* due to mutual support *“woe to him that is alone.”* *“the wounds of a friend are trustworthy.”* (27:6)

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