

The Writings of Solomon Proverbs 27 Relationships

If you are my age or older you probably remember that classic TV show that aired in the 1950's and 60's – re-runs into the 1990's

A) Father knows Best – Robert Young – portrayed the Dad on the show – Jim Anderson

B) In contrast to so many shows today that portray broken **families and Fathers as idiots** –
1) Father knows best portrayed a family that was together and a Dad that was Loving and wise!

C) Now Jim Anderson was a fictional character and critics did criticize the show for being too idealistic.

But listen: as Christians we do have a Father – a heavenly Father who is ALL WISE, ALL KNOWING AND WHO IS ALL LOVING.

A) He is a FATHER WHO KNOWS BEST – and He has our best interest at heart! – HE IS FOR YOU!

Romans 8:32- The Cross – “**He who did not spare His own Son, but delivered Him up for us all, how shall He not with Him also freely give us all things?**”

B) His wisdom is Pertinent and practical if we would just listen to It!
1) If we are honest – truth is often times we don't – do we?

C) Question: How many of you here who are parents – Have shared some wisdom with your kids – that they **IGNORED?**

1) **FRUSTRATING ISN'T IT** {especially when they get hurt and it could have been avoided. -

We who are parents – know the reality of that sort of Frustration

A) I'm sure that God at times gets frustrated as well – when we don't listen

B) But Here is what is so amazing about our Father who knows Best – Because He has a plan for you – because – He has your best interest at heart

C) He is committed to making sure we learn the lesson – WE experience the growth that He has planned for us.

D) HE Doesn't write you off when you STUBBORNLY RESIST – but he will bring you full circle

1) Right back to that same lesson – different setting – a few weeks, months, or even years later - - **STILL NEED TO WORK THIS THRU.**

His GOAL – Romans 8:29 – **Conform us into the image of His Son!**

A) Molding you and shaping you – make you more like Jesus!

B) Some of us are just dead set on learning things the hard way!

1) Hard headed – learn by our mistakes and sometimes WE LEARN FROM OUR MISTAKES

C) But there is a better way! – **Follow his instructions the first time!**

That is where the book of Proverbs comes in so handy

A) The book of Proverbs is filled with such great practical wisdom – that when it is applied – has lasting positive Results

B) The thing I love about the book of Proverbs is it is so Blunt – It is so to the Point and it is so DESCRIPTIVE.

Confrontation Proverbs 17:12

“**It is safer to meet a bear robbed of her cubs - than to confront a fool caught in foolishness.**”

Waking someone up Proverbs 27:14

“**A loud and cheerful greeting early in the morning will be taken as a curse!**”

Lying Proverbs 26:18-19

“**Just as damaging as a madman shooting a deadly weapon is someone who lies to a friend and then says, “I was only joking.”**

Favorite:

Proverbs 11:22

“**Like a gold ring in a pig's snout is a beautiful woman without discretion.**”

Great stuff – Helpful

A) Reminds us that God has a sense of humor!

B) Tonight – Wisdom about Relationships

C) We are going to focus on Friendships – because Friendship **transcends** all the other relationships –

1) Except for parenting – younger kids – Can't be their friends

D) Marriage – dating – Definitely

The Bible doesn't have anything to say about – Dating – But it has a lot to say about Friendships

A) And because -Your future Spouse should be your best friend

B) What the Bible tells us about Friendships has GREAT application for those seeking a spouse as well as those who are already in a marriage relationship.

C) TRUTH IS WE NEED FRIENDS CREATED FOR RELATIONSHIPS

We were made in God's image – Image bearers

A) God is relational – His perfect relationship with The Son and the Holy Spirit

B) Made us with the unique capacity for relationships

1) Share our lives with other human beings is a great privilege –

C) **But it is also Dangerous** –

1) Most of us have experienced what it is like to be betrayed – hurt – let down by a friend.

D) **If that has ever happened to you - Temptation is to run – resist – isolate**

1) I don't need people. NOT TRUE – MADE FOR PEOPLE

We were made to live in relationships and we need to Seek out meaningful relationships -

A) Proverbs 12:26

“The righteous should choose his friends carefully, For the way of the wicked leads them astray.”

B) Not just any friends but – choosing the right friends –

1) The right friends lead to right relationships – healthy –

C) Right dating relationships – lead to right kind of marriage relationships

Finding the right friends is a two way street

A) Proverbs 18:24 – **He who wants friends must show himself friendly.**

“I went to the courtyard and I stood there and no one talked to me.” Did you try to talk to anyone.

B) You need to show yourself friendly – take initiative – look for someone else who looks alone

Tonight Four Traits of a good Friend from the book of Proverbs: - Application to Marriage and Dating - IF TIME – PARENTING

A) #1 Friends Shape and Sharpen One Another

Proverbs 27:17

“As Iron sharpens iron so does a man sharpen the countenance of his friends.”

B) Friends can shape and sharpen each other –

1) Hebrews 10: Stir up one another to love and good works –

Cheer on- encourage – motivate -

C) We all need people who can speak into our lives – Stir us up in the Lord

D) Do you have friendships where – when you leave after spending time with them – **you feel closer to Jesus? – YOU SHOULD**

E) If you don't it doesn't necessarily mean that you need NEW FRIENDS

1) But you might need to get more intentional about your time together!

Avoid ONLY having -surfacey relationships

A) When I was in College – group of friends

B) Go out – **Talk – surf, Teams, Cars, Fashion – Sometimes gossip Joking** –

1) One night – I said how is this different.....

C) Led to us becoming very intentional about our time together

1) Sometimes – restaurant – talked about the message

D) Other times friends or the beach to pray - -

E) Result – deep abiding relationships –

We were sharpening each other – stirred up closer to Jesus

A) THIS IS WHAT I WANT IN A SPOUSE

B) Thing that attracted me to Denise – Love for the Lord –

1) Passion for Christ

C) Today: Young people – all together – all on their DEVICES – **THIS IS NOT FELLOWSHIP**

HAVE SOME INTENTIONAL TOGETHER!

A) Build sharpening relationships – Pick a book – Bible – or another book.

Schedule a Prayer time! Be praying

B) Dating relationship – Ladies you need to look for a guy who will be the leader in this.

1) ONCE - Officially dating – exclusive now – past the coffee stage –

C) Coffee is not a proposal – { IT IS JUST COFFEE!

Once officially dating: - Fun go to dinner – fun go play miniature golf

But some time during the week – should be spent – Spiritually

A) Ladies crave this: DENISE & I DATING – THANKS

B) Husbands your wife – wants you to take the lead in this!

C) Share Devos – Intimidating for some guys – Denise – so Poetic –

1) Pick a good book – not marriage – JESUS - two copies – read and come together to talk - Sharpen each other!

#1 Friends Shape and Sharpen One Another-
#2 Sincere Friends Speak the Truth in Love, Even When it Hurts

Proverbs 27:9

“Ointment and perfume delight the heart, And the sweetness of a man’s friend gives delight by hearty counsel.”

Proverbs 27:9

The heartfelt counsel of a friend is as sweet as perfume and incense. (NLT)

A) Because of their love – Friends earn the right to speak counsel to each other

B) Sometimes that counsel can hurt! – But because it is coming from a heart of love – accepted! – Embraced – My friend has my back! – trust him

Proverbs 27:5-6

Open rebuke is better than love carefully concealed. Faithful are the wounds of a friend, But the kisses of an enemy are deceitful.

A) Your enemy will tell you – I have your back – as they kiss you –

Find out later – STAB YOU IN THE BACK

B) But faithful are the wounds of a friend – say something hard – They love you and want the best for you!

1) YOU SHOULD INVITE THIS – SEE SOMETHING – TELL ME

C) EDDIE WORKS FOR ME {Team- Tech. I am his Boss – my name is on his paycheck – he asks me for time off.

1) Eddie works for me but HE IS MY FRIEND! – 27yrs – One of my best friends –

D) There are Times he has had to tell me - You were wrong:

1) Or that was insensitive – or I know what you meant but this is how it came across.

Here is what I have found to be true – Eddie, Steve, Mike Dunn

A) Counsel from a Friend Is Pleasing Proverbs 27:9
The heartfelt counsel of a friend is as sweet as perfume and incense. (NLT)

B) OUR OWN IMMATURETY AND PRIDE – RESIST THIS

1) **Pastor GAYLORD**

Proverbs 12:15

“The way of a fool is right in his own eyes, But he who heeds counsel is wise.”

C)FRIENDS SPEAKS THE TRUTH IN LOVE EVEN WHEN IT HURTS

D)Ladies this is different from Nagging – Nagging is usually born out of frustration and not love

Proverbs has a lot to say about the nagging wife- Classic pictures

B)Proverbs 27:15 - “A continual dripping on a very rainy day. and a contentious woman are alike;”

1)Never stops – drip, drip, drip – BUT YOU LEARN TO TUNE IT OUT

C) Proverbs 21:9

“It is better to live in a corner of the housetop than in a house shared with a quarrelsome wife.”

Proverbs 21:19

“It is better to live in a desert land than with a quarrelsome woman.”

D)Is that what you want your hubby to become – How sad

Listen – this is what we must understand about relationships – we come into every relationship – broken – and relationship with people who are broken

A)We are broken because we are sinners

B)Jesus is in the process of fixing – TRANSFORMATION – that is his job not ours!

C)Listen God has brought you into your friends life – your spouses life- your future spouses life –

1)NOT TO FIX WHAT IS WRONG – BUT – TO ENHANCE WHAT IS RIGHT

Seen some people try to parent their spouse – they treat their spouse like a little kid – got to shape – mold – fix him – fix her

A)Not your job – They belong to the Lord – HIS DAUGHTER – before she is your wife. – HIS SON – before He is your husband

B)When we focus on the negative: Nag - get angry – Critical

You are basically saying to God -

1)God YOU ARE NOT DOING A GOOD JOB – YOU NEED MY HELP

C)Philippians 4:8

“Whatever things are true, whatever things are noble, whatever things are just, whatever things are pure, whatever things are lovely, whatever things are of good report, if there is any virtue and if there is anything praiseworthy—meditate on these things.”

D)This is such great advice for couples – Make a list – Good things that are true – Hard working ?

Good dad? – honest ?

E)Make a list – put in your Bible – thank God every day for those things

1)Your attitude will change – YOUR WORDS WILL CHANGE

Words are powerful – Affirmation is huge

Proverbs 12:18 “Some people make cutting remarks, but the words of the wise bring healing.” – THEY CAN HEAL

Proverbs 16:24 “Kind words are like honey, sweet to the soul and healthy for the body.”

Goes a long way:

A)People sometimes become what we express that we see!

B)Great example of this in the book of song of Solomon

1)First wife – First love – when he was walking right with God – before he went nuts - Sex addict - 700 wives – 300 concubines

C)This is when He was good – God lays out this book – about marriage and Romance – How to treat each other

1)God knows Guys need pictures – Gives us a story – Be sensitive – shows us with Solomon

Beginnings of the book of Solomon – His wife –

A)Worked in the field – Farm girl – hard worker – skin dark

B) Don't look at me – ugly { Things haven't changed in 4,000 yrs

C) He starts affirming her – Speaking of her beauty –

Next Chapter - I am the Rose of the Sharon – the Lilly of the valley

Proverbs 12:4 “An excellent wife is the crown of her husband.”

A) Does your wife know that you value her?

B) When last time you told her – how much you appreciated her!

1) Told I loved the day we got married – changes let her know.

C) Told her I loved her – last time we - made love

D) Song of Solomon – Wife needs to be affirmed and Valued -

Principal is even True of our kids – You affirm them – rise to the occasion

A) Not saying lie – NOT A GOOD ARTIST – NEXT PICASO –

B) **PROVERBS 22 TRAIN UP A CHILD -**

#1 Friends Shape and Sharpen One Another- which means

#2 Friends Speak the Truth in Love, Even When it Hurts

Word to those of you who are dating or thinking about dating.

Speaking the truth in love is different from just speaking the truth

A) Proverbs 15:18

A hot-tempered person stirs up conflict, but the one who is patient calms a quarrel.

B) If they get mad about a lot of things – if they are overly critical of others

1) It will not be long before you are the object of their criticism and anger

C) **Keep that in mind when you see those traits** in someone interested in, especially when they are getting upset about seemingly little things

Proverbs 22:24

“Don't befriend angry people or associate with hot-tempered people, 25 or you will learn to be like them and endanger your soul.”

#1 Friends Shape and Sharpen One Another- which means

#2 Friends Speak the Truth in Love, Even When it Hurts

#3 Friends Cover – rather than expose.

A) Proverbs 17:9 “He who covers a transgression seeks love, But he who repeats a matter separates friends.”

B) A friend is one who can confront you about something AND you know it is going to end right there.

1) Eddie is not going to go home and tell Dawn.....

C) Staff prayer the next day!

The Bible tells us in 1 Peter 4:8 that Love covers a multitude of sins

A) How do your friends act when you fail ? Make fun

B) Blab – posted on Instagram – never let you forget it!

D) Love covers – Usury – says Leverage: Right time bring it up!

C) Guy has bad argument with his wife – she gets Historical –

1) Always brings up every little thing I ever did.

Remember Noah- Ham exposed Noah's sin – Shem and Japheth covered

A) Covering is not condoning - If necessary – I might need to confront

B) But once it is dealt with – MOVE ON!

C) If you are friends with someone – gossips about others –

1) They are gossiping about you too!

D) Three Friends– Fishing – Lust – Gambling – Gossip – can't wait to get home

1) My friend – INSIDE SCOOP - DAWNED ON ME ... say about me

#1 Friends Shape and Sharpen One Another- which means

#2 Friends Speak the Truth in Love, Even When it Hurts

#3 Friends Cover – rather than expose.

#4 True friends are reliable:

Proverbs 20:6 “Many will say they are loyal friends, but who can find one who is truly reliable?”

A) Loyalty is a rare thing in our world today!

B) Sports used to be the norm for a player to play his entire career with one team.

C) Marriages that ended in Divorce were rare – in the past -

Proverbs 3:3 “Never let loyalty and kindness leave you! Tie them around your neck as a reminder. Write them deep within your heart.”

Proverbs 17:17 “A friend loves at all times and brother is born for adversity.”

Last part doesn't mean that you are there to bring adversity – I knew a guy who I think he thought that was his role in my life.

When the going gets rough – do your friends get going or do that rally.

A) Things are rough you discover who your friends are

B) True friends come to your rescue –

Proverbs 18:24 “A man of many companions may come to ruin, but there is a friend who sticks closer than a brother.”

C) Announce you are moving – seeing who shows up!

D) Reliable and trustworthy is a great mark of a friend

Great trait for a wife:

Proverbs 31:10

“Who can find a virtuous and capable wife? She is more precious than rubies. ¹¹ Her husband can trust her, and she will greatly enrich his life. ¹² She brings him good, not harm, all the days of her life.”

He knows he can trust her with responsibility and with Money –

Close with some thoughts on what to look for in a potential friend or spouse

A) Some of the greatest things you can teach your kids

#1 Do they walk in the fear of the Lord?

Proverbs 9:10

The fear of the LORD is the beginning of wisdom, And the knowledge of the Holy One is understanding.

Fear of the Lord is a Reverence – Don't want to do anything that will cause him grief –

A) Fear God – more than fear man –

B) The Fear of the Lord is the beginning of wisdom – the fear of man is a snare
Proverbs 29:25

C) More concerned about what God thinks than what others think

Proverbs 22:4

“By humility and the fear of the Lord are riches, honor and life.”

A) Rich their blessed - -

Proverbs 24:3

Through wisdom a house is built, And by understanding it is established; ⁴By knowledge the rooms are filled With all precious and pleasant riches.

#2 Are they teachable

PROVERBS 12:15 The way of a fool is right in his own eyes, But he who heeds counsel is wise.

ARE THEY TEACHABLE – OR ARE THEY A KNOW IT ALL

#3 Hard working:

Proverbs 21:5

“Good planning and hard work lead to prosperity, but hasty shortcuts lead to poverty.”

A) Daughter Amanda is about to be married – 20 something days

B) Scott – asked for Amanda’s hand – I asked him for a budget – Did he have a plan of how he was going to take care of her.

C) Your daughter is amazing – Live on love – I know she is amazing –

1) but I also know that you can’t live on love

D) She is my blessing and my burden: It is a good weight – to carry as a dad – But he is going to carry it

E) Phil Moore – He gave her dad back her credit card – good move - - I am assuming responsibility for her.

#4 LOOK AT THEIR FRIENDS

Proverbs 13:20

“He who walks with wise *men* will be wise, But the companion of fools will be destroyed.”

A) Stellar Friends

B) Good sign

#5 Do not place priority on good looks alone:

Proverbs 31:30

“Charm *is* deceitful and beauty *is* passing, But a woman *who* fears the LORD, she shall be praised.”

A) Looks fade – we grow old – we change – Yes there needs to be an attraction but – that can grow – you fall in love with their hearts

B) Told a few guys HAVE YOU LOOKED IN THE MIRROR LATELY –

Unless you are Billy Joel or Mick Jagger – If you are an average looking guy – probably not going to marry a super model.

Dating:

Proverbs 6:27

Can a man take fire to his bosom, And his clothes not be burned? ²⁸ Can one walk on hot coals, And his feet not be seared?

Problem: Culture says – Get Physical – problem is give away a piece of yourself ...

Wrong premise to build your relationship -
Emotions – I love him so much –

Really Lust – If He loves you and respects you –
He will honor you by not sleeping with you!

Communication drops off

One last word to those who are married

Proverbs 5

Drink water from your own cistern, And running water from your own well.

16 Should your fountains be dispersed abroad, Streams of water in the streets?

17 Let them be only your own, And not for strangers with you.

18 Let your fountain be blessed, And rejoice with the wife of your youth.

19 As a loving deer and a graceful doe, Let her breasts satisfy you at all times; And always be enraptured with her love.

Drinking water from your own cistern – own well – takes some work

Draw it out - pump it -

Same is true about Romance -