

March 4 & 5, 2017

Week #2

GUARD RAILS

A STUDY IN PROVERBS
DISCUSSION GUIDE

Guardrails: Proverbs 12, 15, and 18

March 4 & 5

OPENING QUESTIONS

1. What is a hurtful/painful thing someone said to you? How long ago did it happen?
2. What is one of the most encouraging/positive things someone has said to you?

IN THE WORD

1. What's a question you have or something you'd like to learn more about from Pastor Hutchison's message?
2. As a group, read [Proverbs 12](#), [15](#) and [18](#). As you read, make a list of the different things said about words, speech, tongue etc. in these chapters.
3. Do some of the Proverbs speak truth you haven't considered before? Explain.
4. Which of these Proverbs speak most powerfully convicting to you? Why?
5. Proverbs 18:21 says, "The tongue has the power of life and death, and those who live it will eat its fruit." Why is this Proverb important and what does it mean specifically to you?
6. Read [Matthew 12:33-37](#). To whom is Jesus speaking? How does Jesus connect our words with our hearts? What do you think about what Jesus says about "careless/empty" words (v. 36)?
7. Read [James 3:1-12](#). Compare/contrast what James says about the tongue to Proverbs.

MAKING IT PERSONAL

1. What is one specific takeaway from this week's message you need to apply to your life soon?
2. Think of a simple plan to make this change in the coming week, share your plan with someone else and ask them to help hold you accountable this week.
3. Is there someone you've hurt or wounded that you need to seek out and from whom you need to ask forgiveness? Do that in the next 24-48 hours. Report back to the group.
4. Have you been hurt or wounded by harsh words in a way that has affected the way you see yourself? What steps do you need to take to replace these wounds with God's truth? Brainstorm with the group verses that have helped them in times of hurt.
5. Who is someone in your family or someone else you can encourage or help with your words in the coming week? Report back to the group.

CONTINUED LEARNING...

1. Describe other examples from the Bible where words were harmful or helpful.
2. Set a goal this next week to track how many things you say, what you say and to whom – keep a record for a day. What did you learn? What needs to change?

Notes



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