



Sermon Discussion Questions

“Navigating Friendships with Emotional Wisdom” (Psalm 27)

Proverbs: The Wisdom of God as a Way of Life

March 8, 2026, by Drew Hunter

Sermon Overview

Main Idea

In our study of Proverbs, we have seen that it is a curriculum in character development, progressing from beginning to elementary to intermediate to advanced wisdom. Proverbs 27 falls in advanced wisdom and is devoted to helping us navigate friendship with emotional wisdom.

Sermon Outline

1. Folly Withers Relationships (vv. 1-4, 7-8, 14-16)
2. Wisdom Grows Relationships (vv. 5-6, 9-10)
3. Christ Renews Relationships

Quotes

“A *friend* is one of the greatest blessings on earth. Tell me not of money—love is better than gold; sympathy is better than lands. He is the poor man—who has no friends! This world is full of *sorrow*—because it is full of *sin*. It is a *dark* place. It is a *lonely* place. It is a *disappointing* place. The brightest sunbeam in it, is a friend. Friendship halves our troubles—and doubles our joys! A real friend is *scarce* and *rare*. There are many who will eat, and drink, and laugh with us in the *sunshine of prosperity*. There are few who will stand by us in the *days of darkness*—few who will love us when we are sick, helpless, and poor—few, above all, who will care for our souls!” ~J.C. Ryle

Discussion Questions

Initial Engagement

- What is the main idea of the text, or what did the sermon focus on?
- What insight from the text or sermon stood out to you most, and why?

Deeper Reflection

1. What are the four ways folly withers relationships identified in this chapter? (See verses 3-4, 7-8, 14, 15-16) Do any of them resonate with you when you think of friendships or potential friendships that have withered in your life?
2. Contrary to ways folly can wither relationships, this chapter also draws attention to three positive ways we can grow friendships. What three ways are identified in this chapter? (See verses 5-6, 9-10)
3. Have you ever received or given a “faithful wound” from/to a friend? How can that be loving? What safeguards or questions can you ask yourself to ensure you do it wisely?



Sermon Discussion Questions

4. Why is it important for children to know their parents' friends? How can you ensure your kids see and observe your friendships?
5. Read John 15:12-15. How does it reflect the type of contrast between folly and wisdom discussed in Proverbs 27? What is Jesus saying and what did He model for his disciples in his life and teaching regarding friendship?
6. Is there someone you can sincerely encourage and honor for the way they have modeled friendship? How have they reflected Jesus to you in their friendship?

Final Response

- What is one thing you want to remember or one way you hope to change in light of this sermon or discussion?