



TRUTH!

WISDOM FOR FLOURISHING PEOPLE

SERIES RESOURCES

Trust! Wisdom for Flourishing People
Do you care about your neighbor?
Proverbs 29:7

Life throws at us all kinds of situations that cannot be solved easily. We're in need of more than just simple solutions. We have complex problems that require greater insight and understanding. The reason we need this is because these problems stand in the way of flourishing. What we need is wisdom for flourishing. We are in need of truth, truth that can guide us to solve complex everyday problems. Where best to turn than to Truth—the Wisdom of Scripture and the book of Proverbs.

Proverbs wants us to become 'the righteous', people motivated by grace to put our care and know how for doing justice into wise action.

- As you reflect on the message, what stood out to you? What is something you are still thinking about?
- What is something from the message that challenged you? How are you wrestling with that challenge?
- What question(s) do you have from the message?
- What is at least one practical takeaway from the message?

"The righteous care about justice for the poor,
but the wicked have no such concern." - Proverbs 29:7 (NIV)

- Who is the person(s) that you care about the most in this world and why?
- The Hebrew word 'yada' means to have a knowledge of someone on a deep, personal level. How is 'yada' connected to both caring about someone & doing justice on their behalf?
- In what ways have we as individuals & a society cultivated an apathy or lack of concern for the poor & those suffering injustices?
- How does personal exposure to those suffering help cultivate care within us for their plight?
- How can you move towards the poor & begin to build deep, personal relationships with them?
- When you think about 'justice' or 'doing justice' what comes to mind?

- Who or what shapes your views on justice?
- What is justice and how do you do it according to the Scriptures? In what ways does this differ from how our American political parties talk about what justice is and how to do it?
- Three ways the book of Proverbs talks about how to do justice is radical generosity, advocacy, and partnership/friendship. How might God be calling you to one of these this week? (cf Proverbs 3:27-28, 31:8-9, 14:20)
- The righteous in the book of Proverbs are those who have first been made right with God. How are we made 'right with God' according to Romans 3:22-26?
- The world tries to motivate us to do justice primarily based on guilt. The Scriptures appeal rather to grace. How can (and should) grace motivate us to do justice for our neighbors?