

Truth!: Wisdom for Flourishing People What does every relationship need? Proverbs 15, James 1:19-20

James 1:19 Know this, my beloved brothers: let every person be quick to hear, slow to speak, slow to anger; 20 for the anger of man does not produce the righteousness of God.

- 1. You were created for REALationship.
 - 1. You are made in the image of God
 - 1. Genesis 1:27
 - 2. God, Father, Son and Spirit, is the perfect picture of a perfect relationship
 - 2. The church is the body of Christ
 - 1. John 17:20-23
 - 2. Jesus prayed that we would be one as He and the Father are one
 - 3. Acts 2:42-47
 - 4. The best picture we have of what church should look like is in Acts
- 2. REALationships require sacrifice.
 - Jesus had to lay His life down to restore our relationship with God
 - 2. I think what Proverbs is telling us about relationships is to be more like Jesus
 - 1. Listen with patience and humility.
 - 1. Proverbs 15:18 (AMP) A hot-tempered man stirs up strife, But he who is slow to anger and patient calms disputes.
 - 2. Jesus listened with patience and humility.
 - 2. Speak with grace and love.

- 1. Proverbs 15:1(AMP) A soft and gentle and thoughtful answer turns away wrath, But harsh and painful and careless words stir up anger.
- 2. Jesus spoke with grace and love.
- 3. Check your heart.
 - 1. Proverbs 15:28 (AMP) The heart of the righteous thinks carefully about how to answer [in a wise and appropriate and timely way], But the [babbling] mouth of the wicked pours out malevolent things.
 - 2. Is Jesus in there?
- 3. To see your relationships flourish, you have to be more like Jesus
- 3. REALationships need more of Jesus and less of you.
 - 1. Your "self" is what keeps you from thriving relationships
 - 2. To be like Jesus, you have to be WITH Jesus