

A graphic featuring a stylized brain at the top and a classical statue's head at the bottom. A large, bold, yellow-outlined word "TRUTH!" is centered over a white rectangular background. To the right of the brain, several black arrows point in various directions, some overlapping each other.

TRUTH!

WISDOM FOR FLOURISHING PEOPLE

SERIES RESOURCES

Truth! Wisdom for Flourishing People

What does every relationship need?

Proverbs 15:1-4, 12-14, 18, 28

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.

If you want your relationships to flourish, listen with humility, speak with kindness and love with grace.

- 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?

- 1 A soft answer turns away wrath,
but a harsh word stirs up anger.
 - 2 The tongue of the wise commends knowledge,
but the mouths of fools pour out folly.
 - 3 The eyes of the Lord are in every place,
keeping watch on the evil and the good.
 - 4 A gentle[a] tongue is a tree of life,
but perverseness in it breaks the spirit.
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- 12 A scoffer does not like to be reproved;
he will not go to the wise.
 - 13 A glad heart makes a cheerful face,
but by sorrow of heart the spirit is crushed.

14 The heart of him who has understanding seeks knowledge,
but the mouths of fools feed on folly.

18 A hot-tempered man stirs up strife,
but he who is slow to anger quiets contention.

28 The heart of the righteous ponders how to answer,
but the mouth of the wicked pours out evil things.

- Why are relationships important? What are some your most important relationships?
- Is there a relationship that God has put in your life that requires more time and energy than others? How is that relationship going right now?
- Have you been in a recent argument or situation that was or could have been diffused by a soft answer?
- Have you been in a conversation recently where you truly felt heard? How did that affect the conversation?
- Read Luke 6:44-45. Jesus clearly points out that what is in our hearts will come out. How can you make sure that you are filling your heart with things that you want to produce?
- Read James 1:19 - 20. What do you think an argument would look like if both sides were quick to listen, slow to speak and slow to anger?
- Read Romans 12:17-19. When you read, "As far as it is up to you, live at peace with everyone," did it bring anything to mind? How do you think you are