

12:00



Life Advice

Words to live by from the book of Proverbs



Search

June 14, 2026

Pastor Josh Celestin

Life Advice Week 6
Main Text

“Whoever Sharpens You, Shapes You”
Proverbs 27:17

Discussion Questions

Belong:

Who was your best friend when you were growing up? How did you meet? What kind of things did you do? Are you still in contact with that friend today?

Leader’s Note to Share with your group:

The book of Proverbs was written as a gracious resource of divine wisdom. Proverbs is a collection of wisdom sayings written primarily by a King in ancient Israel’s history named Solomon, who is the son of King David and Bathsheba.

Some of the sayings come from Solomon himself; others were sayings taught to him by his father, his mother, and a prophet named Nathan. Proverbs teaches, guides, warns, and reveals, giving direction for life; almost like a SIGN simply saying, "Live like this." God, in His kindness, has set us up for real life success with the Proverbs.

This month, we're teaching FOUNDATIONS for Wisdom. The big idea is that we are all being formed by something. Something or someone is forming you, guiding you, influencing you, helping shape who you are becoming. The question remains: Is what is forming you wise and good?

Believe:

Read Proverbs 17:17 and Proverbs 20:6

What makes a true friend? How common is a loyal friend? What do you value in a true friend? How are friends different from your family?

Read Proverbs 27:17

What does this Proverb compare friendship to? What do you know about iron? What do you think Solomon is saying in this Proverb?

How has a good friend shaped your character? Was there ever a time when that sharpening was uncomfortable? How did it ultimately help you?

What happens if we are not sharpened by those who love and support us as friends?

Share this quote:

"Every person in your life is influencing you in some direction. Maybe not dramatically. But subtly. Some people are like thermometers. They simply reflect what's around them. Other people are like thermostats. They influence what's around them. They shape the environment." Pastor Josh Celestin

Think about your circle of friends. Do you have a friend who acts more like a thermometer? Who in your life influences the environment around them, either for good or bad like a thermostat?

How have your friends helped you become more like Jesus and vice versa?

Read Proverbs 18:24 in several different translations.

What does it mean for someone to "stick closer than a brother"? In what ways do we see Jesus become that kind of friend to us? Think about the circle of friends that Jesus had around Him while He walked on earth. What were they like? How did He influence them?

Become:

Read John 15:13

What did Jesus say is the mark of a loving friend? How is he our ultimate friend? Has there been a time in your life when you accepted Christ as your Savior and friend? Share with the group how having Jesus as the ultimate friend has changed your life.

With Christ as our friend, we want to extend (with his help) the type of friendship to others that God talks about in Proverbs. What is one step you can take this week to be the type of friend that you desire to have in your own life?

Closing:

- Read Proverbs 13:20 - how can you walk with other wise people this week?
- Who is helping you walk with Jesus? Reach out to them this week and reconnect.
- We will be in the book of Proverbs throughout the summer. Who can you invite to church over the next few weeks to hear and discuss this real-life advice together?
- Vacation Bible School is coming this week to First Orlando. Please be praying for the almost 1,600 kids attending and almost 600 volunteers who will be serving!
- Encourage your group members to sign up for daily Scripture and prayer texts this week by texting 'daily' to 40777.