MAKEME



You Make Me Crazy

Surviving Relationships God's Way

Small Group Study Guide, Edition 1.0

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30021 Comercio Rancho Santa Margarita, CA 92688 www.rickwarren.org

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UNDERSTANDING YOUR STUDY GUIDE

Here is a brief explanation of the features of this study guide.

CHECKING IN: You will open each meeting with an opportunity for everyone to check in with each other about how you are doing with the weekly assignments. Accountability is a key to success in this study!

KEY VERSE: Each week you will find a key verse or Scripture passage for your group to read together. If someone in the group has a different translation, ask them to read it aloud so the group can get a bigger picture of the meaning of the passage.

VIDEO LESSON: There is a video lesson for the group to watch together each week. Fill in the blanks in the lesson outlines as you watch the video, and be sure to refer back to these outlines during your discussion time.

DISCOVERY QUESTIONS: Each video segment is complemented by several questions for group discussion. Please don't feel pressured to discuss every single question. There is no reason to rush through the answers. Give everyone ample opportunity to share their thoughts. If you don't get through all of the discussion questions, that's okay.

PUTTING IT INTO PRACTICE: This is where the rubber meets the road. We don't want to be just hearers of the Word. We also need to be doers of the Word (James 1:22). These assignments are application exercises that will help you put into practice the truths you have discussed in the lesson.

PRAYER DIRECTION: At the end of each session you will find suggestions for your group prayer time. Praying together is one of the greatest privileges of small group life. Please don't take it for granted.

A Tip for the Host

The study guide material is meant to be your servant, not your master. The point is not to race through the sessions; the point is to take time to let God work in your lives. Nor is it necessary to "go around the circle" before you move on to the next question. Give people the freedom to speak, but don't insist on it. Your group will enjoy deeper, more open sharing and discussion if people don't feel pressured to speak up.

HOW TO USE THIS VIDEO CURRICULUM

Follow these simple steps for a successful small group meeting:

- Open your group meeting by using the Checking In section of your study guide.
- Watch the video lesson together and follow along in the outlines in this study guide. Each video lesson is about fifteen minutes long.
- Complete the rest of the discussion materials for each session. Be sure to review the **Putting It Into Practice** section and commit to fulfilling any action steps before your next session.
- Close your time together by following the **Prayer Direction** suggestions.

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SESSION 1

HOW TO BE WISE IN RELATIONSHIPS

CHECKING IN

What are you hoping to get out of this study?

KEY VERSE

Love forgets mistakes; nagging about them parts the best of friends.

Proverbs 17:9 LB

HOW TO BE WISE IN RELATIONSHIPS

If you are wise and understand God's ways, you'll live a life of steady goodness so that only good deeds pour forth. And if you don't brag about the good you do, then you will be truly wise! But if you are bitterly jealous and there is selfish ambition in your hearts, don't brag about being wise. That is the worst kind of lie. For jealousy and selfishness are not God's kind of wisdom. [These] are earthly, unspiritual, and motivated by the Devil. For wherever there is jealousy and selfish ambition, there you will find disorder and every kind of evil. The kind of wisdom that comes from heaven is first of all pure. It is also peace loving, gentle at all times, willing to yield to others. It is full of mercy and good deeds. It shows no partiality and is always sincere. Those who are peacemakers plant seeds of peace and reap a harvest of goodness.

James 3:13-18 NLT

ll relationships a	re built on trust. All trust is built on truth.
You must stop telling	g lies. Tell each other the truth, because we all belong to each other in the same body. Ephesians 4:25 NCV
· If I want to	be wise in my relationshipsI won't
God grants a treasur	e of good sense to the godly. He is their shield, protecting those who walk with integrity. Proverbs 2:7 NLT
2. Wisdom is	
· If I want to	be wise in my relationshipsI won't
Any fool can start	arguments: the honorable thing is to stay out of them. Proverbs 20:3 TEV

3.	Wisdom	is			

Let everybody see that you are considerate in all you do.

Philippians 4:5 NLT

Hurt people always hurt people. So look beyond their words to their feelings.

We must be considerate of the doubts and fears of others...Let's please the other person, not ourselves, in doing what's good for him and build him up.

Romans 15:2 LB

Feelings are neither right nor wrong. They're just there.

· If I want to be wise in my relationships...I won't

Kind words bring life, but cruel words crush your spirit.

Proverbs 15:4 TEV

4. Wisdom is willing to _	to others.
· If I want to be wise	e in my relationshipsI won't
	open to new ideas. In fact, they look for them. overbs 18:15 LB
	e in my relationshipsI won't
•	gging about them parts the best of friends. roverbs 17:9 LB
6. Wisdom is	and always
· If I want to be wise	e in my relationshipsI won't
·	Lord is the beginning of wisdom. Psalm 111:10

Discovery Questions

- 1. In James 3:17 we learn that wisdom is:
 - Pure
 - Peace loving
 - Gentle
 - Willing to yield
 - Full of mercy and good deeds
 - Impartial and sincere

Who are the people in your life that you go to for wisdom? Which of these qualities do they display that allow you to trust their wisdom and advice?

- 2. James 3:14 describes the characteristics that keep us from true wisdom as:
 - Bitter Jealousy
 - Selfish Ambition

Pastor Rick describes these obstacles to wisdom as:

- Compromising Integrity
- Antagonizing Anger
- Minimizing Feelings
- Criticizing Suggestions
- Emphasizing Mistakes
- Disguising Intentions

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Have you ever encountered one of these obstacles in your relationships? How did it affect your relationship?

Putting It Into Practice

Review the verses from this lesson and select one to memorize and meditate on this week. Share your chosen verse with the group. What practical steps can you take this week to put that verse into practice? How would it impact your relationships if you put these principles into practice? What changes might you expect to see?

Prayer Direction

As you begin your time of prayer, spend some time thanking God for His generous wisdom.

If you need wisdom, ask our generous God, and he will give it to you.

James 1:5 NLT

Ask God for strength in each of the areas that you have committed to growing in wisdom. Pray for those in your group who are facing significant struggles in their relationships.

SESSION 2

WHO'S PUSHING YOUR BUTTONS?

CHECKING IN

When it comes to relational conflict, are you a skunk or a turtle? Skunks let everybody know about it. Turtles withdraw and keep it to themselves.

KEY VERSE

The fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness, and self-control.

Galatians 5:22-23 NIV

WHO'S PUSHING YOUR BUTTONS?

If you cannot control your anger, you are as helpless as a city without walls, open to attack.

Proverbs 25:28 TEV

A fool is quick-tempered, but a wise person stays calm when insulted.

Proverbs 12:16 NLT

It is better to be patient than powerful; it is better to have self-control than to conquer a city.

Proverbs 16:32 NLT

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