

Door Creek Church | Devotional Plan

Wednesday, May 13

Proverbs 25 | On Loving our Neighbor

“Like a snow-cooled drink at harvest time is a trustworthy messenger to the one who sends him; he refreshes the spirit of his master.” Proverbs 25:13

This collection of Proverbs, words that give us the wisdom and skill for living rightly before God and others (not promises to be claimed).

These truths to be followed in Proverbs 25 have a lot to do with our relationship with our neighbor. Notice the following:

- Verse 8, don't hastily sue your neighbor. You may lose more than the case.
- Verse 17 (I call this the COVID-19 Proverb), seldom set foot in your neighbor's house. Too much of you and they will hate you.
- Don't give false testimony against your neighbor.
- Feed your neighbor who hungers or thirsts, even one you consider your enemy. The Lord will reward you, verses 21-22.

What's required in all of this? *Wisdom, justice and self-control.* Wisdom leads to humility, verses 6-7 and verse 14. Humility leads to justice, bringing equity and fairness to our relationships. Verse 11 says it's like apples of gold in settings of silver. It's all for not without self-control. Without self-control, verse 6 tells us we'll work for pride and then end up being humiliated. Without self-control, we'll seek revenge, betray a confidence, let loose our tongue, wreaking havoc like a Nor'easter, verse 23. Without self-control, we'll give way to the wicked and muddy our reputation, verse 26.

May we be like the one, in verse 12, who brings refreshing joy to God as our faithful message. Like a snow-cooled drink at harvest time, refreshes both the sender and the receiver.

Prayer – *Lord, may I be faithful with the message of your son, the wisdom of God, our Humble Savior, whose love lead him to the cross and kept him there for us.*

SCRIPTURE FOR MEDITATION

James 1:2-4

² Consider it pure joy, my brothers and sisters,[a] whenever you face trials of many kinds, ³ because you know that the testing of your faith produces perseverance. ⁴ Let perseverance finish its work so that you may be mature and complete, not lacking anything.