LESSONS THIS QUARTER
1) 02 Mar.............Proverbs 1:1-19.....................Seek Wisdom’s Ways
2) 09 Mar.............Proverbs 1:33-3:8..................Learn Wisdom’s Benefits
3) 16 Mar.............Proverbs 8:1-9:18.............Listen To Wisdom’s Invitation
4) 23 Mar.............Proverbs 10:11;12;17;18;21,25;26;31...........Guard Your Speech
5) 30 Mar.............Proverbs 10:11;13;14;19;20;22;24;26;28;21;27;28................Don’t be a Slacker
6) 06 Apr.............Proverbs 3:11;13;15;16;20;21;22;23;26;30........Financial Responsibility
7) 13 Apr.............Proverbs 31:10;13;14;15;16;17;18;19;20;22;25;26;27...............Godly Friendships
8) 20 Apr.............Mark 14:32 – 16:8...............Amazed by the Resurrection
9) 27 Apr.............Proverbs 20; 23; 29; 31..................Avoid Addictions
10) 04 May.............Proverbs 5:6-8....................Moral Purity
11) 11 May.............Proverbs 31:10-31..............Treasure Mothers
12) 18 May.............Song of Songs 1:1-5:1...............Righteous Romance
13) 25 May.............Song of Songs 5:2-8:14..........Invest in the Best

INTRODUCTION
If a friend confesses to you that they cheated on their spouse, what should you do?
If a friend breaks confidence with you and shares a secret about your past, what do you do?
Is it appropriate to have “gay” friends & attend their gay weddings?
What does the term “Friend” really mean? Is it a friendly co-worker, a casual acquaintance, or a trusted confidant, or all the above?
For this lesson, we will consider not a fair-weather friend, but a trusted confidant, someone who sticks closer than brother

Passage | Comments
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Mighty Friendships in the Bible

- Adam & Eve – They treasured their relationship over and above God’s friendship with them
- David & Jonathan – Their love for each other was better than a love of women ..................2 Samuel 1:26
- Jesus & John – Jesus loved (agape) John over the others .................John 13:23; 19:26; 20:2 (phileo); 21:7, 20
- Paul & Barnabas – Fellow laborers for the Gospel
- Aquila & Priscilla – Husband & wife dynamo team

Consider Consequences

- 22:24-25. Choose your friends wisely. We all have a tendency to pick up bad habits quicker and easier than picking up good habits from our friends
- Illustration: If standing on a chair, is it easier to pull someone up to your level or to be pulled down off the chair?
- 13:20. If you want to be wise, hang around the wise; if you want to be foolish, hang around the foolish
- Consider this: We are encouraged to be friendly with sinners for the purpose of witnessing to them (Luke 7:34), BUT we are discouraged from being sociable with backslidden Christians for the purpose of shaming them into repentance (1 Cor 5:2)

Cultivate Patience

- How to kill a friendship: Be angry, unloving, disloyal
- Being a Christian we need to go the extra mile to reconcile, and be friendly to the unfriendly
- 14:29. A person who has patience is understanding when a friend needs to “blow off steam,” BUT ...
- 19:19. If you rescue a fool or an angry person once, you will have to do it again, and again — So be wise

Communicate Loyalty and Love

- Christians are a vulnerable lot. We must show ourselves friendly to the unfriendly and risk being taken advantage of, of being slapped in the face, stabbed in the back, and having things stolen from us — So that we can seek reconciliation with them ............. Luke 6:29

CONCLUSION/APPLICATIONS
- Remember. God wants to call each of us “friends” which means we need to show ourselves friendly, loyal, accessible, trustworthy
- Have we spent time with God this week?
- Have we shown kindness to our loved ones and strangers?
- Have we sacrificed any possessions (time, money, effort) to further God’s Kingdom?