Review:

Lesson 1: The Beginning of Wisdom

Lesson 2: The Purpose of Wisdom

Lesson 3: Surrender, Pt. 1 Lesson 4: Surrender, Pt. 2 **Lesson 5:** Surrender, Pt. 3 **Lesson 6:** Two Different Paths

Lesson 7: Wise Discipline
Lesson 8: Wise Nations

Lesson 9: Wise Priorities

Lesson 10: Wisdom with Mammon

Lesson 11: Wisdom and Envy

Wisdom and Friendships Proverbs 27:17

Life in community with others recognizes that none of us have yet become who we were created to be; that is an ongoing process of relational growth, spiritual formation, and painful lessons. It is why we
Discussion 1. What specific relationships/friendships has God used to "sharpen" you? Have you found that sharpening process to be enjoyable or painful? How so?
Like iron sharpening iron, human relationships do not automatically make each other better; the sharpening process requires the hands of a master applying the right kind of pressure. Relational sharpening
Discussion 2. Think about relationships or friendships that have actually shaped you to be a better person. What difference does (did) God make in those relationships? If a friendship with a nonbeliever sharpens you, does that mean it wasn't God doing it? Why or why not?
Christ followers do not choose to surround themselves with people who are more successful than they are by the world's standards; we choose to surround ourselves with people God will use to us
Discussion 3. To you, what is the difference between surrounding yourself with people who will help you be successful by the worlds standards and surrounding yourself with people who will grow you spiritually? Why is this distinction important?
"Iron sharpening iron" is not merely a way to make us better as individuals; it is how we, as His Church, access and engage God's supernatural through his Holy Spirit. In this world, Spiritual power comes through Spirit-filled community.
Discussion 4. Why do you suppose God chooses to manifest His supernatural power in this world primarily through the community of believers rather than through individuals? What does this tell us about God and His ways?