

WISDOM THAT WORKS FOR ME AND YOU
Proverbs 27:17, 1 Samuel 16:10–22, Hebrews 10:24–25

NOTES:

- I. SHARPEN THE NEXT GENERATION

- II. SHARPEN A FRIEND (AND BE SHARPENED)

Questions for Community Groups and Individual Bible Study

For Starters: Who do you regard as a friend or mentor and why? How have they supported you? Who have you mentored or helped?

The Basics: Read Proverbs 27:17, Ecclesiastes 4:9–12, and Hebrews 10:24–25. God created humanity for community, not individualism. Where have you experienced the best form of community, and how has it influenced your life? Discuss the three I's of *isolation*, *independence*, and *individualism* in light of how western culture elevates these values to the detriment of relationships.

Quick-Fire Round

1. Read Proverbs 27:17. Why did Solomon use *iron sharpening iron* as an illustration for our need for community, friendship, and accountability?
2. Read 1 Samuel 16:1–13. How did Samuel influence David's life from a boy to becoming king? What parents, teachers, coaches, church leaders influenced you as a young person? How can you make a positive difference in the next generation? As a parent to your children? Through church?
3. Read 2 Samuel 11:1–5. How much did David's lack of accountability play in his downfall?
4. Read 2 Samuel 12:1–15. What part did Nathan play in holding David accountable? Who are the people in your life with whom you can be totally honest?
5. Read Hebrews 4:12. How can God's Word sharpen our lives? Share some examples of how the Bible has sharpened you.

Community Group Prayer: Read Galatians 6:1–10 and Acts 2:42–47. Pray the specifics of these verses for your community group, ministry team, family, and marriage. Determine how you can practically sharpen one another moving forward.

A Closing Prayer: *Father, thank you that you made me to live life with you and others. Help me sharpen others and be willing to be sharpened myself. Amen.*