

## 1 – DIRECTIONS:

Over the next four weeks, we will discuss "4 Proverbs for the People." Each week, we will cover a different proverb and then look at how this wisdom literature should make a difference in the life of a Christian.

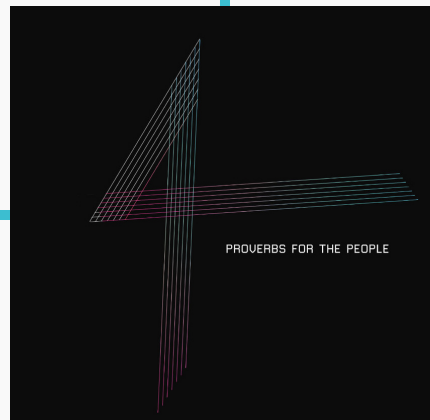
Take time each week to discuss the proverb, as well as pray for one another, and look to see how applying the proverb will make a difference in your obedience to God through Christ.

Please utilize The Moody Bible Commentary to help with any of the passages listed to the right. Any additional resources that you have that might make your discussion more lively, please use those as well. Your prayers and preparation for facilitating the discussion will help others learn and grow as Christians.

To grow as Christians, the emphasis should be faith in Christ and obedience to Him, not only on knowing Bible passages. Help one another in your group grow in faithful obedience to what you discuss in group time. Pray for each other as you meet.

## 3 – QUESTIONS:

- Consider a time when someone influenced you to do something wrong. What did that person have to do in order to convince you to follow suit?
- Would you consider yourself an angry person? Why or why not?
- What types of things make you angry (even if you're not an angry person)?
- What is the point of Proverbs 22:24-25?
- How have you seen this proverb played out in real life? How can friendships influence behavior?
- In what ways can you safeguard against being entangled in the snare of an angry person?
- Why is sinful anger wrong? (See Matthew 5:21-26)
- How can you help someone who is angry? What help might you need?



## 2 – BIBLICAL TEXTS:

### **Proverbs 22:24-25 [ESV]**

*Make no friendship with a man given to anger, nor go with a wrathful man, lest you learn his ways and entangle yourself in a snare.*

### **1 Corinthians 15:33[ESV]**

*Do not be deceived: "Bad company ruins good morals."*

### **Matthew 5:21-26[ESV]**

*"You have heard that it was said to those of old, 'You shall not murder; and whoever murders will be liable to judgment.' But I say to you that everyone who is angry with his brother will be liable to judgment; whoever insults his brother will be liable to the council; and whoever says, 'You fool!' will be liable to the hell of fire. So if you are offering your gift at the altar and there remember that your brother has something against you, leave your gift there before the altar and go. First be reconciled to your brother, and then come and offer your gift. Come to terms quickly with your accuser while you are going with him to court, lest your accuser hand you over to the judge, and the judge to the guard, and you be put in prison. Truly, I say to you, you will never get out until you have paid the last penny.*

## 4 – GOING FROM HERE:

As you conclude, consider how you can apply not being a "hot-head" to your life. Then consider praying for yourself and others who tend to have anger issues. As mentioned in Sunday's sermon, there is righteous anger and sinful anger; the anger we are concerned with is the sinful anger that is often within us or that we are influenced by others to carry.

You might challenge one another to memorize this short proverb or even write it on a Post-It Note to place somewhere that can keep you accountable. But do so with the intention of honoring Jesus through your attitude and actions because you desire obedience to Him.

If you have a friend or an influence in your life that is contributing to anger, begin praying and seeking counsel to determine how to not be ensnared by their impact. Share with others in your group so that they can pray alongside of you and check in with you.

Learning to grow, by God's grace and power, takes time. But it is a wonderful process that God allows for us. And doing so with your Life Group members is a blessing and comfort.