

Discipleship
Guide
Youth Sunday
Proverbs 14:21-22
Romans 15:2

This guide is an invitation to follow Jesus with greater purpose and hope. It will help you to explore the scriptures and challenge you to live out your faith. Each week we'd love for you to think about how you relate: **Up** (with God), **In** (with church) and **Out** (with neighbors).

Weekly Questions:

- How is God getting my attention? For help, think about these areas:
 - How are you living up with God?
 - How are you living in community with other followers of Jesus?
 - How are you living out on mission with your neighbors?
- What are you going to do about it?

Read Proverbs 14:21-22 & Romans 15:2

- Proverbs 14:21 states, "Whoever despises his neighbor is a sinner, but blessed is the one who is kind to the needy". In Madi's message she described "despise" as disliking and having no respect for someone, or even ignoring someone in need, judging them, or giving "that look". How does this expanded understanding of "despise" challenge our natural tendencies, especially when interacting with those we find difficult or those in need?
- Romans 15:2 encourages us to "please his neighbor for his good, to build him up". The sermon clarifies that "pleasing our neighbors" means encouraging them, supporting them, and helping to build them up in love, serving them in a way that leads them closer to Christ. What are some practical ways we can "build up" those around us in our daily lives?
- Think of a time when someone's kindness or effort to build you up had a profound effect on your attitude or perspective. What was the impact?
- How do Proverbs 14:21-22 and Romans 15:2 reinforce this idea of a kingdom culture of kindness in our church with one another and our neighbors?
- Both passages highlight the importance of our actions towards others. Proverbs 14:22 suggests that those who "plan what is good, find love and faithfulness". How does knowing that God desires us to be kind and to build others up free us to be generous and selfless in our interactions? How does God bless us when we live generously and connect us to the eternal promise of living in God's will?
- Madi asked in her sermon, "Am I doing these things to be praised or to support and care for my neighbors?" And, "How can you look for those small details to help or love someone in need?"
- How is the "Golden Rule" of faith beyond just treating others as you want to be treated, and about sacrificing for others, like: sharing your "wealth" (money, talents, skills) and realizing that in giving God fills your cup? How can you apply this sacrificial love this week in showing kindness and building someone up?

After reflection, what are you going to do about what you learned this week?