

## Wise Words Part 2

### Bible Study

#### Day 1: Jesus Responds with Gentleness

**Scriptures:** John 18:15-27 (Peter Denies Jesus), John 21:15-19 (Jesus Restores Peter)

#### Reflection Questions:

1. What does Jesus' approach to restoring Peter teach us about how to handle situations where others have failed or disappointed us?
  - Reflect on the contrast between Peter's denials and Jesus' gentle questions. How does Jesus' method of restoration demonstrate compassion and patience?
2. How does Jesus' gentleness towards Peter in this passage align with the principles of wise speech found in Proverbs?
  - Consider Proverbs 15:1 ("A gentle answer turns away wrath, but a harsh word stirs up anger") and Proverbs 16:24 ("Gracious words are a honeycomb, sweet to the soul and healing to the bones").
3. How does Jesus' gentle response help Peter heal and change rather than cast him away?
  - How may the outcome have changed if Jesus had been harsh with Peter after his failures?
4. In what ways can we incorporate Jesus' example of gentleness in our own relationships and words?
  - Think about situations in your life where someone has let you down or made a mistake. How can you respond with gentleness and grace, following Jesus' example with Peter?

**Prayer:** Spend time in prayer, asking God to help you emulate Jesus' gentleness and grace in your interactions with others, especially in situations where you might feel justified in responding harshly.

## Day 2: Jesus Before Pilate

**Scripture:** John 18:33-37

### Reflection Questions:

1. How does Jesus' response to Pilate demonstrate His commitment to honesty, even in the face of potential danger and death?
  - Reflect on the significance of Jesus openly acknowledging His kingship and mission, despite knowing that it could (and ultimately did) lead to His crucifixion. Consider what this teaches us about the importance of truthfulness.
2. Jesus' honesty led to his death on the cross, but how did his honesty ultimately give us life?
  - Reflect on the immediate and eternal consequences of Jesus' honesty in this passage. Consider how His truthfulness, even in the face of death, paves the way for the ultimate victory of His resurrection and the offer of eternal life to all who believe in Him. How can this perspective encourage you to embrace honesty in your own life, trusting that it will lead to greater fulfillment and alignment with God's will, even when it involves personal sacrifice?
3. In what ways can we apply Jesus' example of speaking the truth in our own lives, especially when it might be easier or safer to be dishonest?
  - Consider situations where you might be tempted to avoid the truth to protect yourself or others. How can Jesus' example inspire you to prioritize honesty and integrity, even when it is difficult?

**Prayer:** Spend time in prayer, asking God to help you embrace honesty and integrity in all areas of your life. Pray for the courage to speak the truth in love, following Jesus' example.

## Day 3: Jesus with the Woman at the Well

**Scripture:** John 4:1-26

### Reflection Questions:

1. How does Jesus' approach in speaking to the Samaritan woman demonstrate encouragement rather than judgment or gossip?
  - Reflect on the way Jesus engages with the woman, acknowledging her past without condemning her, and offering her the "living water" of eternal life. How does His approach encourage her towards transformation rather than shaming her for her past?
2. What can we learn from Jesus' conversation with the Samaritan woman about the power of encouraging others to change?
  - Consider the impact of Jesus' words on the woman. How does His respectful and hopeful interaction inspire her to not only change but also to share her experience with others in her community?
3. In what ways can we apply Jesus' example of using encouragement to facilitate positive change in our interactions with others?
  - Think about situations where you have the opportunity to speak into someone's life. How can you use encouragement, rather than gossip or judgment, to help someone heal or change?

**Prayer:** Begin with a prayer, asking God for wisdom and grace to speak words of encouragement and life into the lives of those around you. Pray for the ability to see others through Jesus' eyes and to offer them hope and kindness.