

STUDY GUIDE

Week 11 – How Not to Wreck Your Life

Relational Wreckage and How to Avoid It

⁹ *Whoever covers an offense seeks love,
but he who repeats a
matter separates close friends.*

PROVERBS 17:9

Healthy relationships take work. Whether it's your spouse, your roommate, or your coworker, Proverbs gives wisdom for connection without chaos.

Text: Proverbs 17:9; 27:17; 18:24

SMALL GROUP GOAL

To uncover the root causes of relational breakdowns and learn how godly wisdom leads to deeper, healthier, more Christ-like relationships.

READ

Proverbs 17:9; 27:17; 18:24

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

THE TEXT:

In Proverbs 17:9 - What do you think “covering an offense” means practically? How does this contrast with the world’s approach to offense?

Why is spiritual sharpening often uncomfortable? What does this tell us about the role of godly relationships in shaping character?

Proverbs 18:24 warns us about having “many companions” while lacking a true friend. What’s the difference between digital “companions” and biblical friendship? What might “sticking closer than a brother” look like today?

MEDITATION:

Is there a relationship in your life past or present that still bears the marks of either drama or distance?

What role did your words, silence, or unhealed wounds play in that relational drift?

What might Jesus be inviting me to do today to restore, release, or rebuild, that relationship?"

APPLICATION:

Where in your relationships are you tempted to "repeat a matter" (gossip, rehash, or expose someone)?

What would it look like to "cover" that offense in love this week?

Who in your life do you need to invite into a deeper, sharpening relationship with you? What has stopped you from doing this before?

What boundaries do you need to set with superficial relationships so that you can invest more intentionally in soul-deep friendships?

PRAYER

Spend time praying:

- "Lord, help me forgive the offenses that I've been holding onto."
- "Jesus, teach me how to be a faithful, sharpening friend to someone who needs it."
- "Holy Spirit, guide me to build relationships that reflect Your covenant love, not convenience."

CHALLENGE

Think of one relationship that needs repair, sharpening, or depth. Reach out to that person this week schedule a phone call, a walk, a coffee. Take one step of reconciliation or intentional connection.