

Community Group Discussion Guide

Week of July 19th, 2015

<u>This Week's Focus</u>: Anger is part of being created in the Imago Dei but often times it is destructive and it wreaks havoc in our life and relationship. The gospel is the answer to the twistedness of our anger.

This Week's Text: Proverbs 14:29-30, 15:1, 15:18, 16:32, 19:11, 19:19, 22:24-25, 29:22

"He that is angry without cause sins, but he who is not angry when there is cause sins. For unreasonable patience is the hotbed of many vices, it fosters negligence, and incites not only the wicked but the good to do wrong." **John Chrysostom**

Be angry and do not sin; do not let the sun go down on your anger, and give no opportunity to the devil. **Ephesians 4:26-27**

Related Texts: Genesis 4; Exodus 34:6-7; 2 Kings 17:18; Mark 3:5; Matthew 21:12-13; James 1:19-20; Jonah 4; Hebrews 12:15; Ephesians 4:31-32

Observations and Questions for Discussion:

- What was most inspiring about this week's text/sermon?
- What is godly wisdom? What is the goal of living in wisdom? Why is it still important today that we live according to the wisdom of Proverbs? How do we live in godly wisdom?
- What is the difference between sinful anger and righteous indignation? Reference Ephesians
 4:26.
- Read Proverbs 16:32. Explain what it means for anger to be slow-going?
- How does the nature and character of God as revealed in Scripture inform our understanding of righteous anger? Reference Exodus 34:6.
- What causes God to be angry? Why would God cease to be loving if He did not express anger? Give some examples of when Jesus expressed his anger.
- How is love tied to anger? How does the level of your anger reveal what is important to you?

- How is our distorted anger the result of disordered love (idolatry)?
- Do you struggle with explosive or suppressive anger? How do both lead to broken relationships,
 physical maladies, and other destructive consequences?
- Discuss how the following three steps can help you properly handle your anger.
 - o Confess your anger. Reference Hebrews 12:15.
 - o Consider your heart. Reference Matthew 6:33.
 - o Confirm the Gospel. Reference Proverbs 19:11 and Ephesians 4:31-32.
- Together, thank God for Jesus' wrath absorbing death which redeemed you and empowers you to live a life of love, forgiveness, and properly handled anger (wisdom).
- How do these passages point to the Gospel and the mission of God's Church?

Next Week's Text: Jesus the Suffering Servant