

WISDOM'S CRY
Cacophony vs. Harmony
Small Group Discussion Questions

Do you remember the opening story from this morning? (The couple who shot each other and proceeded to apologize and affirm their love as they were handcuffed to the stretchers in the hospital.) What would you say to them if you were the deputy standing between their beds?

Think about the marriages that you have seen (parents, grandparents, siblings, children, etc.). Can you identify one or two reasons why the marriage was full of cacophony or why the marriage was full of harmony?

Causes of Cacophony:

Solomon told us this morning that poverty with peace is better than riches with strife. Why is there so much strife in marriage in relation to money, the amount of time spent at work, and whether or not the wife works?

Why do we fail to believe that poverty with peace is better than riches with strife?

Read Proverbs 19:13.

Matt explain this morning that waterboarding is a better interpretation of 'continual dripping of rain' than a leaky roof. Why is a wife's quarreling like waterboarding?

What are some ways that wives are quarrelsome?

Read Proverbs 20:3.

Solomon says that a man who quarrels is a fool. What are some ways that husbands are guilty of quarreling?

Read Proverbs 26:17.

In-Law Relationships can be difficult to say the least. What are some conflicts that you have experienced with your in-laws?

Matt talked some this morning about his and Charity's 'rule' in dealing with in-laws: "Your Family, Your Problem!" What did you think of that rule? What are the advantages of such a rule? What are the shortcomings does it present? Does it align with Proverbs 26:17?

Hope for Harmony:

There are husbands who never listen to their wife's advice and there are also husbands who roll over and play dead (his wife gives 'advice' and he ALWAYS does it). Give some reasons for both of these reactions.

Neither of those reactions are helpful to the husband or the wife. Why are there negative consequences for both spouses when the husband doesn't listen? Why are there negative consequences for both spouses when the husband rolls over and plays dead?

Read Proverbs 20:5

Why does Solomon say that the purposes of the heart are like deep water?

What are some practical ways that husbands and wives can pursue each other's heart and draw out of the depths of their thoughts and emotions?

Why do husbands and wives tend to be content with the shallow water of their spouse's heart, rather than the deep waters?