

- F. Verse 17 is often quoted but rarely unpacked. How does the process of "sharpening" actually impact a relationship?
- G. Verse 18 promises that *"he who tends a fig tree will eat its fruit."* Where in your life are you currently "tending the tree" without seeing the fruit yet? How does this verse encourage you to keep going?
- H. Verse 19 says, *"As water reflects a face, so a man's heart reflects the man."* What does this mean? How do our outer lives eventually reveal exactly what is going on inside our hearts?
- I. Verses 23–27 command us to *"know the condition of your flocks."* Since most of us aren't shepherds, what are the "flocks" in your life right now that require this level of detailed attention (e.g., finances, children, employees, spiritual health)? What's the ultimate benefit of faithfulness in this area?

So What & What Now? - Applying the Scriptures

What is your favorite Proverb in chapter 27?

Verse 7 says, *"One who is full loathes honey, but to one who is hungry everything bitter is sweet."* Have you ever experienced a time of spiritual or emotional "hunger" where even small things felt like huge blessings?

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