

## WHEN SILENCE SPEAKS LOUDER THAN WORDS

TEXT: (Proverbs 25:20, NIV)

<sup>20</sup>Like one who takes away a garment on a cold day, or like vinegar poured on a wound, is one who sings songs to a heavy heart.

## I. AN UNDERSTANDING HEART

1. "Give me an understanding heart so that I can govern your people well and know the difference between right and wrong" (1 Kings 3:9, NLT).

## A. An Understanding Heart toward Those in Sorrow

- 1 "Rejoice with those who rejoice; mourn with those who mourn" (Romans 12:15, NIV).

## B. An Understanding Heart toward Those Who Are Suffering

1. "Then they sat on the ground with him for seven days and seven nights. No one said a word to him, because they saw how great his suffering was" (Job 2:13, NIV).

## C. An Understanding Heart toward Those Who Have Fallen into Sin

1. "Dear brothers and sisters, if another believer is overcome by some sin, you who are godly should gently and humbly help that person back onto the right path. And be careful not to fall into the same temptation yourself. Share each other's burdens, and in this way obey the law of Christ" (Galatians 6:1, NLT).
2. "Like one who takes away a garment on a cold day, or like vinegar poured on a wound, is one who sings songs to a heavy heart" (Proverbs 25:20, NIV).

## II. EMOTIONAL IQ

## A. An Important Skill in Ministry

1. "You must all be quick to listen, slow to speak, and slow to get angry" (James 1:19, NLT).
2. "Rejoice with those who rejoice; mourn with those who mourn" (Romans 12:15, NIV).
3. "The scribes and the Pharisees brought a woman who had been caught in adultery, and placing her in the midst they said to him, 'Teacher, this woman has been caught in the act of adultery. Now in the Law, Moses commanded us to stone such women. So what do you say?'" (John 8:3-5, ESV).
4. "Jesus bent down and wrote with his finger on the ground" (John 8:6, ESV).

## B. Practicing the Golden Rule

1. "So in everything, do to others what you would have them do to you" (Matthew 7:12, NIV).
2. "At my first defense, no one came to my support, but everyone deserted me. May it not be held against them. But the Lord stood at my side and gave me strength, so that through me the message might be fully proclaimed and all the Gentiles might hear it" (II Timothy 4:16-17, NIV).
3. "Do not resist an evil person. If anyone slaps you on the right cheek, turn to them the other cheek also. And if anyone wants to sue you and take your shirt, hand over your coat as well. If anyone forces you to go one mile, go with them two miles" (Matthew 5:39-41, NIV).

### C. Changing Your Mindset

1. “When you do things, do not let selfishness or pride be your guide. Instead, be humble and give more honor to others than to yourselves. Do not be interested only in your own life, but be interested in the lives of others” (Philippians 2:3-4, NCV).
2. “For the LORD will go ahead of you; yes, the God of Israel will protect you from behind” (Isaiah 52:12, NLT).
3. “Give preference to one another in honor” (Romans 12:10, AMP).
4. “If anyone gives you even a cup of water because you belong to the Messiah, I tell you the truth, that person will surely be rewarded” (Mark 9:41, NLT).
6. “Therefore all things whatsoever ye would that men should do to you, do ye even so to them” Matthew 7:12 (KJV).

## CONCLUSION

### A. Compassion—Love in Action

1. “Love is patient, love is kind. It does not envy, it does not boast, it is not proud. It is not rude, it is not self-seeking, it is not easily angered, it keeps no record of wrongs. Love does not delight in evil but rejoices with the truth. It always protects, always trusts, always hopes, always perseveres” (I Corinthians 13:4-7, NIV).
2. “Finally, *be ye* all of one mind, having compassion one of another, love as brethren, *be pitiful, be courteous*” (I Peter 3:8, KJV).