

Sticks and Stones
Week 3: The Promise of Words
November 27th, 2022

OPENING PRAYER

Have someone in the group invite the Holy Spirit into our presence. Pray for your encounter with God's Word. Ask God to open your heart and mind to some new understanding and especially to a new way of applying this truth in our daily lives.

SMALL GROUP GUIDELINES

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|------------------|----------------|-----------------------------|
| ~Safe Group | ~Silence | ~Sharing |
| ~Confidentiality | ~No Cross Talk | ~Self-Aware |
| ~Listen | ~No Fixing | ~"I" Statements |
| ~Pause | ~No Rescuing | ~Handle Conflict Biblically |

"GETTING TO KNOW YOU"

Go around the room and briefly share your answer to the following question:

As we wrap up Thanksgiving and move into the Christmas season, what are you hoping for as we look to end 2022?

INTRODUCTION

We continue with our series **Sticks and Stones** this week. We continued in our series last week last by looking at the fact that words have power and can cause pain. This week, we are looking at blessings and promises in Scripture and how they can shape our lives. Our message is **The Promise of Words**.

THIS WEEK'S KEY SCRIPTURE: Matthew 5:1-10; Proverbs 16:24

DISCUSSION:

Go around the room and share from your heart, remembering the group guidelines.

Pastor Kelsey shared 3 realities of a blessing:

1. You Have to Receive It

* Pastor Kelsey defined a blessing as “a prophetically spoken belief over your past, in your present, about your future.”

- When you think about this definition, which area of your life (your past, your present, or future) gets in the way of you fully receiving God’s blessing to you?
- Is the act of receiving a blessing a challenge for you? Why or why not?

2. You Have to Own It

*Read Matthew 5:1-10 together as a group.

- What does "owning" the blessing Jesus promises us mean to you? How does this play out in your every day life?
- How do you "feel" when you read these passages? Do you feel like these promises pertain to you? Why or why not?
- What healing promises of God to you do you need to work at "owning" more?
- Pastor Kelsey states that blessings “cannot be retracted, redacted, or changed.” Share what you think about this statement. How does this truth affect how you live in light of the promises that God has given to you?

3. You Have to Share It

Read Proverbs 16:24 together as a group.

- Has anyone shared a word of blessing over your life? If so, how has it affected you?
- Who do you think needs to receive a healing word of blessing from you this week?

CLOSING PRAYER: Spend some time in prayer as a group. Pray for one another, for those that might be absent and for prayer requests.