3. Relationship Repair: Getting to the Heart

"Do not gloat when your enemy falls; when he stumbles, do not let your heart rejoice, or the Lord will see and disapprove and turn his wrath away from him." Proverbs 24:17,18

It can't be saying
in verse 18 you should hope God's wrath falls on somebody, because that's exactly what verse 17 says you're not allowed to do.

So what is it saying?
It's saying when you hate somebody for the sin they've perpetrated against you, God is as angry at your hate as he is at the original wrong.

Do you know what's so bad when you have a grudge?
You're putting yourself in the place of God.

But God says, "I'll take the vengeance,"
"But he was pierced for our transgressions, he was crushed for our iniquities; the punishment [the wrath] that brought us peace was upon him, and by his wounds we are healed. We all, like sheep, have gone astray, each of us has turned to his own way; and the Lord has laid on him the iniquity of us all." Isaiah 53:5,6

Sierra Community Church November 9th, 2014
Dan Wilvers Part -11

FOOL PROOF
WISDOM *from* PROVERBS

Proverbs
Relationship Repair 101
a "How To" Guide
From the Book of Proverbs

1. Relationship Repair: Guarding Against Ill-Will

Whoever conceals hatred with lying lips and spreads slander is a fool.
Proverbs 10:18 NIV

Lips that lie cover deep-seated hatred, and whoever spreads a libelous rumor is acting as a fool. Proverbs 10:18 Voice

You and I think of hatred as ready to tear their eyes out. But in the Bible hatred means ill will toward another. You have ill will for someone when you begin to find happiness in their unhappiness.

Don't rejoice when your enemies fall; don't be happy when they stumble. Proverbs 24:17

So what's the hiding of hatred about? ----------It's slander.

Every time you see the word *slander* in the book of Proverbs, it does not mean a false report. It simply means a bad report.

A "*Fool*" doesn't mean a silly person,
it means you're a *"destructive"* person

Do not testify against your neighbor without cause, or use your lips to deceive. [29] Do not say, "I'll do to him as he has done to me; I'll pay that man back for what he did." Proverbs 24:28

2. Relationship Repair: The Key Steps to Take

- **You have to resist the urge to feel superior and self-righteous**.

Whoever ***derides*** their neighbor has no sense, but the one who has understanding holds their tongue. 13 A gossip betrays a confidence, but a trustworthy person keeps a secret. Proverbs 11:12,13

Derision-means to look down on someone.

1. Exaggerate your goodness
2. Exaggerate another's sin
3. Exaggerate the flaws of that person's group

So you can see there are no excuses for any of us. If your eyes shift their focus from yourselves to others—to judge *how they are doing*—you have already condemned yourselves! *You don't realize that* you are pointing your fingers at others for the exact things you do as well.
2 There's no doubt that the judgment of God will justly fall upon hypocrites who practice such things. 3 *Here's what is happening:* you attack and criticize others and then turn around to commit the same offenses yourselves! Do you think you will somehow dodge God's judgment? Romans 2:1-3

- **you must forgive them for the harm they've done.**

Do not say, "I'll do to him as he has done to me; I'll pay that man back for what he did." Proverbs 24:29

What does it mean to have a grudge?

"Those who forgive faults foster love, but those who ***repeatedly*** recall them ruin relationships. Proverbs 17:9

First : That person did that to me.
Second: You think about it. You indulge the memory.
Third: You develop ill will towards them.
Four: You (may) root for something to go wrong with them.
Five: You repeat it to other people under the guise of a warning.
Six: You slander them.
Seven: You are declared '*foolish'* in God's sight for doing so.

What does it mean to forgive faults, to cover a sin?

It means: Stop _____

What does it mean to cover an offense?

It means: You_____

- **You have to overcome evil with good.**

If your enemy is hungry, give him food to eat; if he is thirsty, give him water to drink. 22 In doing this, you will heap burning coals on his head, and the Lord will reward you. Proverbs 25:21,22

Do not be **overcome** by **evil**, but **overcome evil** with good.
Romans 12:21

How? You have to be willing to hurt more for them than you were hurt by them.

- **you can then confront them as necessary.**

Better is open rebuke than hidden love. [6] Wounds from a friend can be trusted, but an enemy multiplies kisses. Proverbs 27:5,6

It's not loving to the person to let them keep doing whatever it is they're doing. Therefore, you must challenge them.

But How? Only if you've done the inner forgiveness will the challenge work.

If anyone is caught in any trespass, you who are spiritual, restore such a one in a spirit of gentleness; Galatians 6:1