

# REFLECTION GUIDE

4.21.24

## INTRO

Even words that have good intentions behind them can hurt someone. Humility must be our guide when we have intentionally been the offender or the offended.

## THOUGHTS

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## PRAYER

Lord Jesus, I pray that your display of humility would inspire me to set aside my pride and admit when I have wronged someone. Help me to always assume the best of others rather than the worst and be quick to forgive because I recognized my own need for forgiveness. Amen.

## DIGGING DEEPER

- Can you remember a story (funny or otherwise) when you said one thing and meant something totally different?
- James 3:3-5 says, “A bit in the mouth of a horse controls the whole horse. A small rudder on a huge ship in the hands of a skilled captain sets a course in the face of the strongest winds. A word out of your mouth may seem of no account, but it can accomplish nearly anything—or destroy it!” [MSG]
  - What stands out to you in these verses?
  - Describe how our words can be like a bit in the mouth of a horse or a rudder on a ship.
  - Sounds simple to control our speech. Why do you think it is often the one thing we struggle to do the most?
- When you realize your words have caused problems, how do you tend to respond?
- Explaining feels urgent and appropriate in a heated moment. Why do you think we rush to explain ourselves rather than simply owning our guilt?
- Whether you find yourself on the giving or receiving end of hurtful words, describe what a humble response looks like and sounds like. Is it more difficult for you to ask for forgiveness in these situations or to grant it? Do you struggle to give others the benefit of the doubt about their intentions?

