



# Mariner's **DISCOVERY Church**

*OurMDC.org*  
(925) 354-1096  
1641 Bixler Road,  
Discovery Bay  
California 94505

***Program for Sunday, September 14, 2025***

***Please welcome the worship music team this week!***

**Call to Worship:** *Here for You*  
*Thrive*

**Welcome, announcements, and prayer:**

**Thanks for joining our Worship Service today.....**

- **JOIN US FOR BIBLE STUDY THIS WED. September 17th at 6:00 P.M.** here in the Fellowship House. We're on Chapter 12 in the book of 1st Corinthians. A copy of the study guide is on the back table. You can also join **ONLINE** with **Zoom**. Go to our website to join in or give us your E-mail Address on a Connect Envelope and we'll send you a link. You can also contact the Church office at (925-354-1096) for more information.
- **Time to think about selling Christmas Trees this November.** There are 2 signup sheets on the information table. One to help unload trees & setup the lot on Sat. Nov. 22<sup>nd</sup> and one to help during the sales, which runs from Nov. 23<sup>rd</sup> thru Dec. 13<sup>th</sup>. More details to follow.
- **Following Church Service on September 28<sup>th</sup>** we will have a BBQ & Baptism. Please contact Pastor Larry if your interested in being baptized.
- **If you have any prayer requests**, please fill out a Connect Envelope and place it in the wooden offering box in the back. Also, during the week you can email requests at: [PrayerRequest@OurMDC.org](mailto:PrayerRequest@OurMDC.org)

**Thank you for your Offerings.....**

***There are several ways you can give:***

**To Donate:**

**OFFERING BOXES** – In Back

**ONLINE**

Go To: [www.OurMDC.org](http://www.OurMDC.org)

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Mariner's Discovery Church

P.O. Box 1667

Discovery Bay, CA. 94505

**or CALL THE OFFICE - (925) 354-1096**

**Adoration:** *Eye of the Storm*

**Selected Scripture reading:** Proverbs

**Message:** *Wisdom in Repairing Relationships*

**Affirmation:** *The River*

**Close of Worship Service, Fellowship continues**

### **Selected Scriptures:**

**Proverbs 16:28** A perverse man spreads strife,  
And a slanderer separates intimate friends.

**Proverbs 26:22** The words of a whisperer are like dainty morsels,  
And they go down into the innermost parts of the body.

**Proverbs 15:18** A hot-tempered man stirs up strife,  
But the slow to anger calms a dispute.

**Proverbs 11:12-13** He who despises his neighbor lacks sense,  
But a man of understanding keeps silent.

13 He who goes about as a talebearer reveals secrets,  
But he who is trustworthy conceals a matter.

**Proverbs 17:9** He who conceals a transgression seeks love,  
But he who repeats a matter separates intimate friends.

**Proverbs 12:18** There is one who speaks rashly like the thrusts of a sword,  
But the tongue of the wise brings healing.

**Proverbs 15:1** A gentle answer turns away wrath,  
But a harsh word stirs up anger.

**Proverbs 24:28-29** Do not be a witness against your neighbor without cause,  
And do not deceive with your lips.

29 Do not say, "Thus I shall do to him as he has done to me;  
I will render to the man according to his work."

**Proverbs 25:21-22** If your enemy is hungry, give him food to eat;  
And if he is thirsty, give him water to drink;

22 For you will heap burning coals on his head,  
And the Lord will reward you.

**Proverbs 27:5-6** 5 Better is open rebuke  
Than love that is concealed.

6 Faithful are the wounds of a friend,  
But deceitful are the kisses of an enemy.

**Galatians 6:1** Brethren, even if anyone is caught in any trespass, you who are spiritual, restore such a one in a spirit of gentleness; each one looking to yourself, so that you too will not be tempted.

**Proverbs 24:17-18** 17 Do not rejoice when your enemy falls,  
And do not let your heart be glad when he stumbles;

18 Or the Lord will see it and be displeased,  
And turn His anger away from him.

**Proverbs 10:12** Hatred stirs up strife,  
But love covers all transgressions.

**Proverbs 19:11** A man's discretion makes him slow to anger,  
And it is his glory to overlook a transgression.

**Proverbs 17:17** A friend loves at all times,  
And a brother is born for adversity.

**Friday Devotional: John 10:10** The thief comes only to steal and kill and destroy; I came that they may have life, and have it abundantly.

### **Chiastic construction in John chapter 10:**

A 10:1–2 The true shepherd enters by the door.

B 10:3–5 The sheep recognize the shepherd's voice.

C 10:6 The figure of speech is misunderstood.

D 10:7–9 Jesus is the door of the sheep.

E 10:10 The thief comes to destroy; Jesus gives abundant life.

F 10:11–13 The Good Shepherd lays down His life for the sheep.

**F 10:14–16:** The Shepherd knows His sheep and brings others into one flock.

**E 10:17–18:** Jesus lays down His life willingly.

**D 10:22–23:** Jesus is in the temple during Hanukkah (symbolic of light and access).

**C 10:24:** The Jews demand a plain answer.

**B 10:25–26:** Unbelievers do not recognize His voice.

**A 10:27–29:** The sheep hear His voice and follow Him.

### **Wisdom in family relationships:**

- Acquiring truth requires effort, sacrifice, and appreciation for value.
- Discernment in a world of information overload.
- Do not trade away (compromise) truth for temporary gain, popularity, convenience, fleeting desire.
- Maintain integrity over expediency.
- Marriage is divinely sanctioned institution. God's favor happens through marriage.
- A spouse is a blessing, not a burden. Happiness and fulfillment within marriage are gifts of God.
- God affirms marital sexuality (within monogamous, lifelong, marriage).
- Marriage is a covenant and a source of blessing
  - Intent: joy, life, fruitfulness.
- Choosing faithfulness is path to blessing and life. Choosing adultery is path of foolishness and destruction.
- Friendships are a ministry. Marriages are a ministry.
- Participate with God in what He wants to do.
- Relationship needs to be both deep and honest.
  - Honest feedback.
  - Accountability.
  - Constructive criticism.
  - Respect, acceptance.
  - Debate.
  - Goal is ministry: wiser, more capable, more effective in life and faith.
- Children are selfish ("me, my, mine!").
- Rod of Discipline = authority when there is need of correction.
  - Drive out foolishness to make room for wisdom.
- Parenting is a divine mandate.
  - Worst thing you can do to a selfish person is let them continue in their selfishness.
  - God disciplines those He loves (Hebrews 12:6). Parents discipline those they love.
- Train up: to dedicate, to initiate, or to narrow based on the age and stage of a child's life. It includes teaching, guidance, and discipline.
- Methodologies are geared specifically to the child.
- Way should go: truth of the Lord and wisdom for success in dealing with a complex world.
- Not a 100% promise, but a proverb.
- God is your partner.
- Discern the child's nature (intelligence, temperament, personality).
- A Good person leaves an inheritance to both children and grandchildren.
- Cause and effect go across generations.
- Righteousness is a practical path demonstrated in right relationships with God and with others as much as possible.
- To pass on a heritage (financial, and spiritual) to our children and grandchildren, we need to be intentional.
- "Discipline of the Lord" is moral instruction, training, education, punishment, designed to be a formative process that shapes character.
- There is a causal link between love and correction.
- Correction is a sign of love, value, and affection.
- Correction has a purpose.
- For believers, correction (Hebrews 5:5-11) is a sign that we are children of God.

- Two people, two defining qualities, two outcomes.
- Meritocracy (Faith, faithfulness, wisdom, good character).
- God looks at the heart (1 Samuel 16:7)
- Justice eventually prevails.
- Character over privilege.
- The most valuable thing a parent can pass on to their children is a firm foundation of faith, wisdom, and character.
- Curse is to treat with dishonor, contempt, belittle or hold in low esteem.
- Violates fifth commandment (moral offense).
- Lamp: Life, prosperity, hope, guidance. Ruin happens at a time that is least desirable (darkness).
- Warning: link act of contempt to inevitable loss of divine blessing and a future without hope.
- Honoring parents is a divine command.
- A life of honoring others (beginning with one's parents) leads to a life of blessing, stability, and hope. Dishonoring leads to a loss of blessing and a bleak future.
- Listen is to hear and obey.
- Begot, ground of authority is that he gave you life.
- Despise is to scorn, look down on, disrespect.
  - Do not dismiss because of her age and increasing vulnerability.
- Command of God.
- Parent's are (flawed) representatives of God.
- God values the wisdom of the elderly.
- The elderly are a blessing not a burden.
- We need to actively honor; not just passive acceptance.
- A parent's joy is tied to the character of the child.
- Righteous and wise represent a life lived in accordance with the commands of God and His moral order.
- The child is to live so that their life becomes a source of joy for their parents.
- Reframe parenting: not just academics or careers, but children who are morally sound and wise.
- The hard work of raising a righteous child is worth it.

### **Wisdom in Relationship Repair: Why?**

- Perverse: twisted, devious, obstinate in evil.
- Slanderer – can be true, but a bad report.
  - Is it true, necessary, kind (edification is the goal).
- Takeaways:
  - Protect relationships
  - Be an encourager, not a gossip.
  - If you hear gossip, rebuke the source, and refuse to pass it on.
    - Say a quick prayer for the person.
  - Reflect on a strained relationship, then take a meaningful step towards restoration.
- Hot-tempered is quick to anger
- Stirs up strife is intentional or reckless provocation.
- Self-control is a mark of wisdom.
- Patience de-escalates conflicts and promotes reconciliation.
- Takeaways:
  - We are called to be peacemakers.
  - For a recent conflict, offer a listening ear.
  - Exercise patience before responding.
- **Wisdom in Relationship Repair: What?**
- To despise is to hold in contempt.
- Silence is to exercise restraint to prevent harmful speech.
- Talebearer spreads confidential information.

- Conceals a matter is not hiding sin, it is keeping private matters private. This demonstrates faithfulness and loyalty.
- Takeaways:
  - In this digital age, demonstrate restraint.
  - Guard confidences.
- Overlook an offense rather than reveal it.
- Takeaways:
  - Choose to address conflicts privately (Matthew 18:15).
  - In today's hyper-connected world, this is a call for forgiveness, and to exercise love by keeping no record of wrongs.
  - Forgive as Jesus forgives.
  - Build bridges instead of walls.
- Words have power of life and death.
- Rash speech is destructive. Wise speech is healing.
- Takeaways:
  - Exercise discernment with social media.
  - Are my words building up or tearing down?
  - How can I respond with gentleness and wisdom?
- Words can evoke calmness or provocation.
- Takeaways:
  - In a polarized culture, we need to demonstrate the civility of Jesus.
  - Words are like water. Gentle streams soothe. Torrents destroy.
  - When frustrated, respond with gentle words.
  - Defuse anger with grace.
- Prohibition against false testimony or retribution.
- Baseless accusations harm community and dishonor God.
- Takeaways:
  - Speak the truth.
  - Getting even..., doesn't.
- Tangible immediate provision for a need.
- Trust God's judgment.
- Takeaways:
  - Use demonstrable kindness to transform relationships.
  - Find a need and meet it.
  - Pray for someone who seems like an enemy.
- Honest correction is better than manipulative flattery.
- Truthfulness is more important than temporary discomfort.
- Takeaways:
  - In today's click value-sensitivity that drives people-pleasing activity, establish trust (you care) and speak the truth with love, courageously.
  - Am I open to such wounds?
- Within community of faith, by mature believers, with gentleness.
- Requires sensitivity, self-awareness and humility.
- Restoration is a Christian duty.
- Takeaways:
  - Restore with compassion and empathy.
  - Exercise gentleness, guard against pride.
  - Use private gentle restoration (rather than social media shaming blast).
- Warning against gaining pleasure from other's misfortune.
- Prohibits personal gloating. Gloating usurps God's role in judging.

- Takeaways:
  - Promote empathy and mercy.
  - Pray for their redemption.
  - Pray for someone who has wronged you.
- Highlights internal attitudes show up in external actions.
- Hatred leads to conflicts, quarrels, divisions, contention, discord.
- Selfless Love chooses forgiveness and reconciliation over retaliation.
- Takeaways:
  - Choose forgiveness over grudges.
  - Promote peace rather than division.
  - Address conflict constructively.
  - Break the cycle. Be a peacemaker.
- Slow to anger, forgiveness, are God qualities.
- Wisdom exercises emotional self-control.
- Conflicts are inevitable. Anger does not have to be.
- Takeaways:
  - Image of God should reflect the character of God.
  - Culture is quick offense and cancel.
    - Believers need to swim against this current.
  - Scroll past inflammatory comments.
  - Respond with questions rather than accusations.
  - See offenses against you through the eyes of the mercy of the Lord.

### **Wisdom in Relationship Repair: How?**

- Highlights internal attitudes show up in external actions.
- Hatred leads to conflicts, quarrels, divisions, contention, discord.
- Selfless Love chooses forgiveness and reconciliation over retaliation.
- Takeaways:
  - Choose forgiveness over grudges.
  - Promote peace rather than division.
  - Address conflict constructively.
  - Break the cycle. Be a peacemaker.
- True friends and family loyalty are marked by steadfast love and reliability, especially in challenging times.
- Untrue friends, and disloyal family... don't!
- Takeaways:
  - Social media fosters shallow relationships.
  - Shoulder the burdens of others in trying times.
  - Offer practical help.
  - Call someone you know who is facing adversity to let them know that you are there for them.
- God equates our hate, judgment with original sin.
- Jesus as a Sacrificial Servant (Isaiah 53 Who bore God's vengeance, Philippians 2).
- We can stop acting as Lords.
- Reflecting the image of God in relationships requires the power of God.
- Become the peacemaker that Jesus has called you to be.

**You are not alone. God is with you! MDC wants to help. We are here for you.**

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