

# Part 3: Challenging Friendships

"Challenging Friendships" addresses the need to cultivate diverse and deep relationships within a fragmented society. It underscores the biblical values of love, unity, and mutual support amidst differences.

Key Scripture: Proverbs 27:17; Colossians 3:11–17; James 1:19

## **Discussion Questions**

### Ice-Breaker

- What is one quality you value most in a friend?
- Share a time when a friend helped you see a different perspective on an issue.

## Deep Dive

- How does Proverbs 27:17 ("As iron sharpens iron...") apply to our relationships today, especially when they are challenging?
- Discuss Colossians 3:11–17. How does this passage guide us in managing relationships with people who are different from us?
- How can we apply James 1:19 in our daily interactions, especially when discussing sensitive topics?
- What does it mean to model biblical friendship in an increasingly divided society?

#### Application

- Is there a relationship you need to mend or improve? What steps will you take based on today's discussion?
- How can our church community become a model of the unity described in Colossians 3?