

“An honest answer is like a kiss of friendship.”

Proverbs 24:26 NLT

[lectio] // PROVERBS 24:23-34

There must be GOOD ways to be honest. There must be ways to be truthful, yet loving and even helpful. A kiss is something that displays love and affection.

Wisdom does not say it's like kick of friendship! Let's talk about a word that is very hard for me -

DIPLOMACY. I have a difficult time shaping my words, comments and my truth into kind, warm fuzziness. I want to get better at it though. In fact I am determined to ask better questions and learn diplomacy. Maybe 2020 is the year for perfect, focused vision on this. “The art of dealing with people in a sensitive and effective way.” I need to learn to kiss more than kick!

[oratio]

pray as responding to the words, phrase, sentence that God has stirred within you

Dad,

You know this is hard for me. I have watched friends who are diplomatic and I am envious! I'm still learning how to even voice my opinion, let alone do it nicely!

When people ask me what I think, I do not filter my comments. I try to ask if they want the truth, but that feels like a false warning, who WANTS to be lied to?

Many do. Maybe it's just that I'm not good at false flattery or flowery small talk. I still want help this year.

[contemplatio]

rest in the presence of God, allowing the words revealed to take root