

Partners in Proverbs

Week 1

Chapters 1-7

January 2021

Questions for Reflection and Application

Chapter 1

1. What is your objective in reading through the book of Proverbs?
2. How does Proverbs 1 describe the fool? Are there areas in your life where you may despise wisdom and instruction? What does Scripture say to do? How can we apply the gospel to our areas of foolishness?
3. What are the characteristics of a wise person? Can you think of someone in your life that fits this description?
4. What assurance is given to the one who heeds God's "reproof" and to the one that "listens"?

Chapter 2

1. How can you understand the "fear of the Lord" based on verses 1-5? What are some practical ways to do this? How does the Lord initiate this fear in us?
2. Who gives wisdom? To whom does he give it?
3. Verse 7 says that "he is a shield to those who walk in integrity." What comfort does this provide for this life?
4. Based on verses 12-20, what are the 3 purposes of wisdom?

Chapter 3

1. 3 things will be added to you if you "let your heart keep my commandments": length of days, years of life, and peace. How would you describe your current level of peace?
2. Verses 5 and 6 are well known and often quoted. Think of an example of when you acknowledged him and he made your paths straight. What affect did that have on your faith?
3. How do you view the Lord's discipline? Can you think of a time when you benefitted from it? How did the Lord use discipline to show you His grace, *his unmerited favor*?
4. What promises are found in verses 21-26?
5. Why is your sleep "sweet" in verse 24?

6. What does it mean to “not withhold good from those to whom it is due when it is in your power to act?” Give a practical example. What is the gospel correlation?

Chapter 4

1. Verses 1-13 seem to strongly reiterate the pursuit of wisdom. Why is this necessary?
2. What is the writer of Proverbs urging against in verses 14-17? How does this chapter contrast the path of the wicked and the path of the righteous?
3. Verses 20-27 give specific instruction regarding the way to live wisely. Take some time and prayerfully consider each verse. In which areas have you experienced growth? In which areas would you like to see more growth?

Chapter 5

1. How is the son admonished to keep discretion?
2. How is the immoral woman described?
3. Verse 6 says, “She does not ponder the path of life; her ways wander, and she does not know it.” What does this description reveal about the state of her heart?
4. How do verses 11-14 depict the life lived for immorality and sinful indulgence?
5. What is the benefit of saving sexual relations for the confines of marriage?
6. What does the gospel say to the adulterous woman or the man who gives way to seduction? Does this type of sin seem unforgiveable to you?

Chapter 6

1. How have you been ensnared by the words of your mouth?
2. In what areas of your life are you tempted to be lazy? We all have them, so don't be shy 😊.
3. What are the 6 things that the Lord hates? Why is attention given to them specifically?
4. Why do the Proverbs repeatedly say to “bind them on your heart and tie them around your neck” in relation to commandments and teaching? What impression does this give you?
5. How do verses 22 and 23 relate to 20 and 21?

Chapter 7

1. The writer is comparing wisdom to a sister or intimate friend. What are some adjectives you would use to describe a sister or friend? Would you use those terms to describe your relationship with wisdom? Why or why not?
2. Wisdom is said to keep the young man from the adulteress. How does wisdom do this?

3. How can wisdom replace foolishness in verses 6-9?
4. How do verses 10-20 describe the adulteress?
5. Why is so much attention given to immorality in the Proverbs?