

Partners in Proverbs

Week 4

Chapters 22-31

January 2021

Questions for Reflection and Application

Chapter 22

1. Why is it significant that the Lord “is the maker” of both the rich and the poor (Verse 2)?
2. Why does the sluggard say, “There is a lion outside! I shall be killed in the streets.” (Verse 13)?
2. In verses 17-21, what is promised to the one who inclines his ear to hear the words of the wise?

Chapter 23

1. What do verses 6 and 7 tell us about the stingy man? What should our heart attitude be when extending hospitality? How is this different than the stingy man?
2. What do verses 10 and 11 tell us about God’s love and compassion for orphans?
3. What are some ways we might “sell” truth/wisdom/understanding (verse 23)?
4. What do verses 19-35 say about overindulgence and its consequences?

Chapter 24

1. Verses 1 and 2 tell warn against envying the ungodly. Why should we guard against this? Are you ever tempted to envy unbelievers (school, work, television)?
2. How should verses 11 and 12 influence the way we reach out to people in need (both practically and spiritually)? What words are used to express urgency?
3. Describe laziness in your own words based on verses 30-34.

Chapter 25

1. What do verses 6 and 7 tell us about humility? How does Jesus exemplify this verse?
2. How should we treat those who mistreat us in verses 21 and 22? Why will the Lord reward this behavior? What truth about God enables us to act in this way?
3. How does verse 28 describe a man without self-control? How does this apply to everyday life?

Chapter 26

1. In what way is a fool returning to his folly similar to a dog returning to its vomit (verse 11)?
2. Why is there more hope for a fool than the man who is wise in his own eyes (verse 12)? Give an example of being wise in your own eyes.
3. What do verses 20-22 say about gossip and the person who gossips?

Chapter 27

1. Why should we not praise ourselves (verse 2)? What does Paul say we should boast about and why? How is this different than our natural inclination?
2. Why is open rebuke better than hidden love (verse 5)?
3. Evaluate your friendships based on verse 6 and verse 17. Do you choose friends that “wound or kiss”? Which type of friend are you? Name some friends that “sharpen” you. How do you seek to sharpen your friends?
4. How do verses 15 and 16 describe a “quarrelsome wife”? How do these metaphors describe her influence? What motivates the heart of a quarrelsome wife?

Chapter 28

1. Why do the “wicked flee when no one pursues”? And why are the righteous bold (verse 1)?
2. What do verses 2-9 say about justice and the law?
3. What are the 2 choices of the one who sins described in verse 13? What is the outcome of each?

Chapter 29

1. “A fool gives full vent to his anger/spirit, but a wise man quietly holds back.” What does this mean? How do you do in venting and holding back?
2. Why will disciplining our children “give us rest?”
3. How does “the fear of man” lay a snare? Why are we safe when we trust the Lord?

Chapter 30

1. How would you describe verses 1-4? What can we learn from them?
2. Think through the remaining verses of this Proverb. It seems that Agur was a thoughtful man, who had insight into his own heart. How would you like to grow in discerning your heart.

Chapter 31

1. What ideas have you held about the Proverbs 31 woman?
2. How can you seek to be diligent like she was, yet know grace when you fail to measure up?