

Welcome to

Journey through the Bible



Book by book
Bible study

Proverbs



Pearls from
Proverbs

Life is filled with “good things”

Whoever seeks good finds favor (11:27)

Good people obtain favor from the LORD (12:2)

Good judgment wins favor (13:15)

Those who plan what is good
find love and faithfulness. (14:22)

He who finds a wife finds what is good,
and receives favor from the LORD. (18:22)

Some things that are better!

Better a little with the fear of the LORD
than great wealth with turmoil. (15:16)

Better a little with righteousness
than much gain with injustice. (16:8)

How much better to get wisdom than gold,
to get insight rather than silver. (16:16)

Better a patient person than a warrior, one with
self control than one who takes a city (16:32)

Better a dry crust with peace and quiet
than a house full of feasting, with strife. (17:1)

The excellent is the best of all!

An excellent wife is the crown of her husband,
(12:4)

An excellent wife who can find?
she is worth far more than rubies. (31:10)

Safe paths vs. dead-end streets

There is a way that appears to be right,
but in the end it leads to death. (14:12)

The way of fools seems right to them,
but the wise listen to advice. (12:15)

In the way of righteousness there is life;
along that path is immortality. (12:28)

The path of the righteous is like the morning sun
shining ever brighter till the full light of day.
(4:18)

Helpful words vs hurtful words

A gentle answer turns away wrath,
but a harsh word stirs up anger. (15:1)

Reckless words pierce like a sword. (13:3)

Like apples of gold in settings of silver is
a word spoken in right circumstances (25:11)

Gold there is, and rubies in abundance, but lips
that speak knowledge are a rare jewel. (20:15)

When words become weapons

A lying tongue hates those it hurts and
a flattering mouth works ruin. (26:28)

A deceitful tongue crushes the spirit. (15:4)

A harsh word stirs up anger. (15:1)

An angry person stirs up conflict, and a
hot-tempered person commits many sins.
(29:22)

The Deadly Duo: Gossip & Lies

The words of a gossip are like choice morsels;
they go down to the inmost parts. (18:8).

A gossip betrays a confidence,
a trustworthy person keeps a secret. (11:13)

A gossip betrays a confidence,
so avoid anyone who talks too much. (20:19)

A gossip separates close friends (16:28)

Without wood a fire goes out;
without a gossip a quarrel dies down. (26:20)

The Deadly Duo: Gossip & Lies

An honest witness does not deceive
but a false witness pours out lies. (14:5)

The LORD hates- (6:19)
a false witness who pours out lies,
a person who stirs up conflict in the community.

A false witness will not go unpunished,
and whoever pours out lies will perish. (19:9)

Keep falsehood and lies far from me; (30:8)

When and why our words hurt

Reckless words pierce like a sword. (12:18)

He who speaks rashly will come to ruin. (13:3)

Do you see someone who speaks in haste?
There is more hope for a fool than for them.
(29:20)

To answer before listening—
that is folly and shame. (18:13)

When words are many, sin is not absent,
but he who holds his tongue is wise. (10:19)

How the wise handle criticism:

The wise in heart accept commands, (10:8)

The wise listen to advice. (12:15)

Whoever heeds life-giving correction
will be at home among the wise. (15:31)

Rebuke the discerning,
and they will gain knowledge. (19:23)

How others handle rebuke & criticism

Whoever corrects a mocker invites insults;
whoever rebukes the wicked incurs abuse.
Do not rebuke mockers or they will hate you;
rebuke the wise and they will love you.
Instruct the wise and they will be wiser still;
teach the righteous and they will add to their
learning. (9:7-9)

Fools mock at making amends for sin,
but goodwill is found among the upright. 14:9

Honesty and Integrity

Kings take pleasure in honest lips; they value a
man who speaks the truth. 16:13.

The man of integrity walks securely, but he who
takes crooked paths will be found out. 10:9.

The integrity of the upright guides them, but the
unfaithful are destroyed by their duplicity. 11:3.

Righteousness guards the man of integrity,
but wickedness overthrows the sinner. 13:6.

People we meet in Proverbs, The Wise and the Fool

Walk with the wise and become wise,
for a companion of fools suffers harm. (13:20)

The wise fear the LORD and shun evil, (14:16)
but a fool is hot-headed and yet feels secure.

Fools give full vent to their rage,
but the wise bring calm in the end. (29:11)

The tongue of the wise adorns knowledge,
but the mouth of the fool gushes folly. (15:2)

Those in between- the naive, the mockers, the foolish

“How long will you who are naive love being
simple-minded? How long will scoffers delight
in scoffing and fools hate knowledge? (1:22)

For the waywardness of the naive will kill them,
and the complacency of fools will destroy them;
(1:32)

You who are naive, gain prudence;
you who are foolish, set your hearts on it. (8:5)

Scoffers and Mockers:

"Proud," "Haughty," "Scoffer" are his names,
who acts with insolent pride. (21:24)

A mocker does not respond to rebukes. (13:1)

Mockers resent correction,
so they avoid the wise. (15:12)

The mocker seeks wisdom and finds none, but
knowledge comes easily to the discerning. 14:6

Drive out the scoffer, and out goes strife;
quarrels and insults are ended. (22:10)

The sluggard (lazy):

How long will you lie there, you sluggard?
When will you get up from your sleep? (6:9)

As a door turns on its hinges,
so a sluggard turns on his bed. (26:14)

Sluggards do not plow in season; so at
harvest time they look but find nothing. (20:4)

The craving of a sluggard will be the death of him,
because his hands refuse to work.
All day long he craves for more, (21:25-26)

The righteous vs. the wicked

The integrity of the upright guides them, but
the unfaithful are destroyed by their duplicity.

The righteousness of the blameless makes their
paths straight, but the wicked are brought
down by their own wickedness. (11:3,5)

The desire of the righteous ends only in good;
but the hope of the wicked only in wrath. 11:23

The righteous vs. the wicked

The prospect of the righteous is joy, (10:28)
but the hopes of the wicked come to nothing.

The house of the wicked will be destroyed,
but the tent of the upright will flourish. (14:11)

What the wicked dread will overtake them,
what the righteous desire will be granted.
When the storm has swept by, the wicked are
gone, but the righteous stand firm forever.
10:24-25

Friends and neighbors

A friend loves at all times,
and a brother is born for a time of adversity
(17:17)

One who has unreliable friends
soon comes to ruin, but there is a friend
who sticks closer than a brother. (18:24).

Do not forsake your friend or a friend of your
family and do not go to your relative's house
when disaster strikes you—better a neighbor
nearby than a relative far away. (27:10)

Rich, Poor, and would-be friends

Wealth attracts many friends, but even the
closest friend of the poor deserts them. (19:4)

The poor are shunned by their neighbors,
but the rich have many friends. (14:20)

The poor are shunned by all their relatives—
how much more do their friends avoid them!

Though the poor pursue them with pleading,
they are nowhere to be found. (19:7)

Poverty and Wealth

All hard work brings a profit,
but mere talk leads only to poverty. (14:23)

A little sleep, a little slumber, a little folding of the
hands to rest— and poverty will come on you like
a bandit and scarcity like an armed man. 24:33-34

The rich rule over the poor,
the borrower is servant to the lender. 22:7.

One man pretends to be rich, yet has nothing;
another pretends to be poor, yet has great wealth.
13:7.

Money isn't everything

Better a little with the fear of the LORD
than great wealth with turmoil. (15:16)

Better to be poor than a liar. (19:22)

Better a poor man whose walk is blameless
than a rich man whose ways are perverse.
(28:6)

Rich and poor have this in common:
The LORD is the Maker of them all. (22:2)

When money becomes the master

The stingy are eager to get rich and are unaware that poverty awaits them (28:22)

The greedy stir up conflict, but those who trust in the LORD will prosper. (28:25)

The greedy bring ruin to their households.(15:27)

A kindhearted woman gains honor, but ruthless men gain only wealth. (11:16)

The wrong way to get rich

Ill-gotten treasures have no lasting value. (10:2)

Dishonest money dwindles away, (13:11a)

Food gained by fraud tastes sweet, but one ends up with a mouth full of gravel. (20:17)

A fortune made by a lying tongue is a fleeting vapor and a deadly snare. (21:6)

Better the poor whose walk is blameless than the rich whose ways are perverse. (28:6)

Work and wealth

Lazy hands make for poverty, but diligent hands bring wealth. (10:4)

Diligent hands will rule, but laziness ends in forced labor. (12:24)

Whoever gathers money little by little makes it grow. (13:11b)

The plans of the diligent lead to profit as surely as haste leads to poverty. (21:5)

The rich rule over the poor, and the borrower is slave to the lender. (22:7)

Work, Wealth and Contentment

Do not wear yourself out to get rich; have the wisdom to show restraint. Cast but a glance at riches, and they are gone, for they will surely sprout wings and fly off to the sky like an eagle. (23:4-5)

Give me neither poverty nor riches, but give me only my daily bread. Otherwise, I may have too much and disown you and say, 'Who is the LORD?' Or I may become poor and steal, and so dishonor the name of my God. (30:8-9)

The wise use of wealth

Honor the LORD with your wealth,
with the first-fruits of all your crops;
then your barns will be filled to overflowing,
and your vats will brim over with new wine.
(3:9-10)

The generous will themselves be blessed,
for they share their food with the poor. (22:9)

Whoever is kind to the poor lends to the LORD,
and He will reward them for what they have done.
(19:17)

How to get the most out of life

- ★ let God manage your life & choices, 3:5-7
- ★ give (yourself) generously to God, 3:9-10
- ★ accept God's loving work in your life, 3:11-20
- ★ be wise, manage life thoughtfully, 3:21-26
- ★ seize opportunities to serve others, 3:27-30
- ★ be content with what God gives you, 3:31-35

A prayer for the journey of life:

Two things I ask of You,
do not refuse me before I die:
Keep deception and lies far from me,
Give me neither poverty nor riches;
Feed me with the food that is my portion,
That I may not be full and deny You and say,
"Who is the LORD?"
Or that I not be in want and steal,
and profane the name of my God. (30:7-9)

See you next week!

Ecclesiastes,
God's light on life
"under the sun"


