



Wise Words for Wise Living

# Themes from Proverbs

Wise Words for Wise Living

**A Chain Reference Topical Bible Study  
from the book of Proverbs**

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# Introduction & Syllabus

Each lesson contains passages from Proverbs on the topic to be considered. Use these lists to create chain-references in your Bible. For our class discussion, please read and ponder each passage listed and come prepared for an open discussion of the topic as a whole. The questions for discussion will serve as a basis for each class period. Give attention and be ready to share the practical applications of the sum of the wisdom presented in Proverbs on each topic as you study and ponder each theme. These are not intended to be exhaustive lists of passages that apply to the theme, thus space will be left for you to add verses you find relevant. Also, there is great profit in considering proverbs from parallel Bible translations.

- Lesson 1: Wisdom .....
- Lesson 2: Diligence .....
- Lesson 3: Anger .....
- Lesson 4: Family .....
- Lesson 5: Friendship .....
- Lesson 6: Folly .....
- Lesson 7: Humility .....
- Lesson 8: Money .....
- Lesson 9: Justice .....
- Lesson 10: Honesty .....
- Lesson 11: Correction .....
- Lesson 12: Speech .....
- Lesson 13: Happiness .....

*Space is left to add dates and/or teacher's names for your class syllabus. Just click on the fields and add the dates.*

*About the Cover Graphic: Wisdom is often the difference between barren living and fruitful living. The proverbs often present choices we must make between the two. The image reflects those choices we make daily. Are we living as wisely as we can?*



# Lesson 1: Wisdom

## Passages for Study

- Proverbs 1:1-9
- Proverbs 1:20-33
- Proverbs 2:1-22
- Proverbs 3:1-26, 35
- Proverbs 6:6
- Proverbs 8:33
- Proverbs 9:1-12
- Proverbs 10:1, 14
- Proverbs 11:29-30
- Proverbs 12:15
- Proverbs 13:14-20
- Proverbs 14:16
- Proverbs 15:2, 7, 24
- Proverbs 16:20-23
- Proverbs 18:1, 15
- Proverbs 20:1
- Proverbs 21:22
- Proverbs 23:15, 19
- Proverbs 24:5-6
- Proverbs 28:11
- Proverbs 30:24-28
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## Questions for Discussion:

1. What is wisdom?
2. What is a proverb? How do proverbs impart wisdom?
3. How one gains wisdom?
4. How does a wise person view knowledge?
5. What qualities are manifested by the wise?
6. What blessings come with wisdom?







# Lesson 4: Family

## Passages for Study

- Proverbs 1:8-9
- Proverbs 3:1-2
- Proverbs 4:1-12
- Proverbs 5:1-2, 7
- Proverbs 5:15-19
- Proverbs 6:20-24
- Proverbs 7:1
- Proverbs 8:32-34
- Proverbs 10:1
- Proverbs 12:4
- Proverbs 13:1, 24
- Proverbs 14:1
- Proverbs 15:5, 20
- Proverbs 17:6, 21, 25
- Proverbs 18:22
- Proverbs 19:13, 14, 18
- Proverbs 19:26-27
- Proverbs 20:7, 11, 20
- Proverbs 21:9, 19
- Proverbs 22:6, 15
- Proverbs 23:13-14
- Proverbs 23:22-25
- Proverbs 27:10-11
- Proverbs 27:15-16
- Proverbs 28:7, 24
- Proverbs 29:3, 15, 17
- Proverbs 30:11, 17
- Proverbs 30:21-23
- Proverbs 31:10-11

## Questions for Discussion:

1. What qualities characterize a good and solid family? What qualities characterize a struggling family?
  
2. How might the choices of family members impact one another?
  
3. What are some instructions the wise man has for children and parents?
  
4. What are some instructions the wise man has for husbands and wives?

# Lesson 5: Friendship

## Passages for Study

- Proverbs 6:1-3
- Proverbs 12:26
- Proverbs 13:20
- Proverbs 14:20
- Proverbs 16:28
- Proverbs 17:9
- Proverbs 17:17
- Proverbs 17:18
- Proverbs 18:24
- Proverbs 19:4
- Proverbs 19:6-7
- Proverbs 20:6
- Proverbs 20:19
- Proverbs 22:11
- Proverbs 22:24-25
- Proverbs 27:6
- Proverbs 27:9
- Proverbs 27:10
- Proverbs 27:14
- Proverbs 27:17
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## Questions for Discussion:

1. What is the relationship between being friendly and having friends? Is there a difference between being friendly and being a friend?
  
2. What qualities should one seek in those whom he would call a “friend”? What qualities should be avoided?
  
3. As a friend to another, what should you expect of yourself? What can others expect of you?
  
4. What false pretenses do people seek to be a “friend” to another?
  
5. What foolish conduct can separate friends and end friendships?

# Lesson 6: Folly

## Passages for Study

- Proverbs 1:7, 22
- Proverbs 1:32-33
- Proverbs 3:35
- Proverbs 8:5
- Proverbs 9:13-18
- Proverbs 10:8, 10
- Proverbs 10:18, 21, 23
- Proverbs 11:29
- Proverbs 12:15; 12:23
- Proverbs 13:16, 19, 20
- Proverbs 14:1, 3
- Proverbs 14:7-8, 16
- Proverbs 14:18, 24, 29
- Proverbs 15:2, 5, 7
- Proverbs 15:14, 21
- Proverbs 16:22
- Proverbs 17:7, 10, 12
- Proverbs 17:16, 21
- Proverbs 17:24, 28
- Proverbs 18:2, 6-7, 13
- Proverbs 19:1, 10, 29
- Proverbs 20:3
- Proverbs 23:9
- Proverbs 24:7-9
- Proverbs 26:4-12
- Proverbs 27:3, 22
- Proverbs 28:26
- Proverbs 29:9, 11, 20
- Proverbs 30:21-23

## Questions for Discussion:

1. Is there a difference between folly and being a fool? Does one single foolish act make one a fool?
  
2. What qualities render one foolish?
  
3. What are some of the fruits of folly?
  
4. What are some ways one might avoid folly?





# Lesson 8: Money

## Passages for Study

- Proverbs 1:19
- Proverbs 3:9-10
- Proverbs 6:1-5, 10-11
- Proverbs 10:4, 15
- Proverbs 11:4, 15-16
- Proverbs 11:24-25, 28
- Proverbs 13:7-8, 11
- Proverbs 13:18, 22
- Proverbs 14:20, 23-24
- Proverbs 15:16, 27
- Proverbs 16:8, 19
- Proverbs 17:18
- Proverbs 18:11, 23
- Proverbs 19:4, 7
- Proverbs 19:14, 17
- Proverbs 20:16, 21
- Proverbs 21:5-6, 17
- Proverbs 21:20, 25-26
- Proverbs 22:1-2, 7, 9
- Proverbs 22:16, 26-27
- Proverbs 23:4-5
- Proverbs 27:13
- Proverbs 28:6, 8, 11
- Proverbs 28:19, 22
- Proverbs 28:25, 27
- Proverbs 30:8-9
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## Questions for Discussion:

1. What are some of the challenges of the rich? What are some of the plights of the poor?
2. What does the wisdom of God say regarding debt and lending?
3. What are some of the dangers of greed?
4. What are some things more valuable than money?
5. What are some righteous ways to become wealthy? What are some foolish ways (thus, wrong ways) to become wealthy?

# Lesson 9: Justice

## Passages for Study

- Proverbs 1:3
- Proverbs 2:6-9
- Proverbs 3:33
- Proverbs 4:18
- Proverbs 8:15, 20
- Proverbs 9:9
- Proverbs 11:1
- Proverbs 12:5
- Proverbs 13:23
- Proverbs 16:8, 10-11
- Proverbs 17:15, 23
- Proverbs 18:5
- Proverbs 19:28
- Proverbs 21:3, 7, 15
- Proverbs 22:8, 16
- Proverbs 22:22-23
- Proverbs 24:23-25
- Proverbs 28:5, 16, 21
- Proverbs 29:4, 14
- Proverbs 29:26-27
- Proverbs 31:5, 9
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## Questions for Discussion:

1. What is the difference between justice and injustice?
  
2. What are some of the fruits of justice?
  
3. What are some things that typically lead to injustice?
  
4. What are some of the qualities of a just person?
  
5. How does one grow in justice? What impact can a just person have on those around him?



# Lesson 10: Honesty

## Passages for Study

- Proverbs 3:3
- Proverbs 4:24
- Proverbs 6:12, 16-19
- Proverbs 8:6-7
- Proverbs 10:18
- Proverbs 11:1
- Proverbs 12:5, 17-22
- Proverbs 13:5
- Proverbs 14:5, 25
- Proverbs 15:4
- Proverbs 16:11, 13
- Proverbs 16:28, 30
- Proverbs 17:4, 7, 20
- Proverbs 19:1, 5, 9
- Proverbs 19:22, 28
- Proverbs 20:10, 14, 17
- Proverbs 21:6, 28
- Proverbs 22:20-21
- Proverbs 23:23
- Proverbs 24:26, 28-29
- Proverbs 25:14, 18
- Proverbs 26:18-19
- Proverbs 26:23-28
- Proverbs 27:5-6
- Proverbs 28:13, 23
- Proverbs 29:12
- Proverbs 30:5-8
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## Questions for Discussion:

1. What is honesty? List some qualities that are synonymous with honesty.
  
2. What is a righteous man's attitude toward truth? What is his attitude toward lies?
  
3. In what ways is dishonesty manifested? What are the consequences of dishonesty?
  
4. What qualities should always accompany honesty?
  
5. What are some of the ramifications of giving heed to lies?

# Lesson 11: Correction

## Passages for Study

- Proverbs 1:22-27
- Proverbs 3:11-12
- Proverbs 5:1-2
- Proverbs 6:23
- Proverbs 9:7-9
- Proverbs 10:17
- Proverbs 11:14
- Proverbs 12:1
- Proverbs 13:1, 18
- Proverbs 15:5, 10, 12
- Proverbs 15:31-33
- Proverbs 16:22
- Proverbs 17:10
- Proverbs 19:18-21
- Proverbs 19:25, 29
- Proverbs 20:5
- Proverbs 22:15
- Proverbs 23:13-14
- Proverbs 24:23-25
- Proverbs 25:12
- Proverbs 26:3
- Proverbs 27:5
- Proverbs 28:23
- Proverbs 29:1
- Proverbs 29:15-17, 19
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## Questions for Discussion:

1. How would you define correction and rebuke? What are some synonyms for these terms?
  
2. What are the benefits of rebuke and correction? What are some consequences for despising rebuke and correction?
  
3. How does the wisdom of God characterize the relationship between a fool and correction? What about the wise and correction?
  
4. What is the wisdom of God regarding correction children?
  
5. How should correction and rebuke be administered? How should it be received?



# Lesson 12: Speech

## Passages for Study

- Proverbs 6:2, 12
- Proverbs 6:17, 24
- Proverbs 8:13
- Proverbs 10:11, 18-21
- Proverbs 10:31-32
- Proverbs 11:9, 11-13
- Proverbs 12:6, 13-14
- Proverbs 12:17-23
- Proverbs 13:2-3
- Proverbs 14:1-3
- Proverbs 15:1-2, 4, 6-7
- Proverbs 15:14, 23, 28
- Proverbs 16:1, 10, 21
- Proverbs 16:23, 27-30
- Proverbs 17:4, 7, 9, 28
- Proverbs 18:4, 6-8, 13
- Proverbs 18:19-24
- Proverbs 19:1, 28
- Proverbs 20:19
- Proverbs 21:6, 23
- Proverbs 22:14
- Proverbs 23:15-16
- Proverbs 25:11-12
- Proverbs 25:15, 23
- Proverbs 26:7, 9
- Proverbs 26:20-22, 28
- Proverbs 27:2, 14
- Proverbs 28:23
- Proverbs 29:5
- Proverbs 30:32
- Proverbs 31:8-9, 26
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## Questions for Discussion:

1. Why is important that we learn to control what we say?
2. What are some ways, both positive and negative, our speech might impact others?
3. When is it wise for one to keep silent? When is it unwise?
4. What are the dangers of flattery, gossip and talebearing?
5. What are some ways we might learn to better control our tongues?

# Lesson 13: Happiness

## Passages for Study

- Proverbs 3:13-18
- Proverbs 10:1, 22
- Proverbs 10:27-29
- Proverbs 12:20, 25
- Proverbs 14:10, 13
- Proverbs 14:20-21
- Proverbs 15:13,15
- Proverbs 15:20-21
- Proverbs 15:23, 30
- Proverbs 16:20
- Proverbs 17:5, 21, 22
- Proverbs 21:15
- Proverbs 22:8
- Proverbs 23:24-25
- Proverbs 23:29-35
- Proverbs 24:17-18
- Proverbs 27:11
- Proverbs 28:14
- Proverbs 29:18
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## Questions for Discussion:

1. What are the differences between happiness, joy and gladness?
  
2. How much of our happiness is dependent upon our family lives? What lessons might we draw from that?
  
3. How might joy and gladness hinder or improve your health and mental well-being?
  
4. How might the pursuit of wisdom and living obediently to God's word impact our happiness?
  
5. Should our happiness come at the expense of others? Why should we not rejoice at the calamity of others?