

Teacher's Lounge

Proverbs Study - compiled by me - written by God *G*

Posted By: **Melanie in China**

Date: Tue, 15 January 2002, at 7:38 a.m.

In Response To: [Does anyone know of a good Bible supplement to SL1?](#)
(Jenny in MD)

My intent in designing this study was to introduce some of God's concepts of right and wrong as seen in Proverbs. I felt that grouping them in topics would be easier for them to digest. The way I have used this is on a five day schedule, every morning during breakfast. I read the memory verse aloud 3 or 4 times each morning and by the end of the week they have it memorized. The first day I read the story from the Bible and discuss the concept we are studying. The other four days I read the Proverbs for each day and help them understand the vocabulary and the concept. One day each week we will review all of the previously memorized Proverbs, just to be sure they retain them. I had some help from the ladies on the board in coming up with some of the stories to illustrate the concepts. I usually only give them one story for illustration, but sometimes I like to add another story on another day if we have time and interest.

My prayer is that my MANY hours of work on this will be a blessing to some of you as well. :o)

Proverbs Study:

Choosing Friends

Memory verse: 13:20 He who walks with the wise grows wise, but a companion of fools suffers harm.

Story Illustrating:
Samson & Delilah: Judges 16

Others: (for further illustration if you want)
Elisha and the youths - 2 Kings 2:23-25
Daniel, Shadrach, Meshach, & Abednego
Judas to Jesus

12:26 A righteous man is cautious in friendship, but the way of the wicked leads them astray.

18:24 A man of many companions may come to ruin, but there is a friend who sticks closer than a brother.

20:19 A gossip betrays a confidence; so avoid a man who talks too much.

22:24-25 Do not make friends with a hot-tempered man, do not associate with one easily angered, or you may learn his ways and get yourself ensnared.

27:6 Wounds from a friend can be trusted, but an enemy multiplies kisses.

27:9 Perfume and incense bring joy to the heart, and the pleasantness of one's friend springs from his earnest counsel.

How to be a Good Friend

Memory Verse: Proverbs 17:17 A friend loves at all times, and a brother is born for adversity.

Story Illustrating:
Abraham & Lot Gen 14:14-16

Others:
Ruth & Naomi
David and Jonathan, 1 Sam.18:1-4; 20; 23:16-18; 2 Sam. 1:17-27; 9:1-13.
David & Mephibosheth 2 Sam 9

11:13 A gossip betrays a confidence, but a trustworthy man keeps a secret.

17:9 He who covers over an offense promotes love, but whoever repeats the matter separates close friends.

25:19 Like a bad tooth or a lame foot is reliance on the unfaithful in times of trouble.

27:10 Do not forsake your friend and the friend of your father, and do not go to your brother's house when disaster strikes you-- better a neighbor

nearby than a brother far away.

18:19 An offended brother is more unyielding than a fortified city, and disputes are like the barred gates of a citadel.

27:17 As iron sharpens iron, so one man sharpens another.

18:2 A fool finds no pleasure in understanding but delights in airing his own opinions.

25:20 Like one who takes away a garment on a cold day, or like vinegar poured on soda, is one who sings songs to a heavy heart.

Consideration for Others

Memory Verse: Proverbs 3:27 Do not withhold good from those who deserve it, when it is in your power to act.

Story Illustrating:
David & Mephibosheth 2 Sam. 9

Others:
David at Saul's death

27:14 If a man loudly blesses his neighbor early in the morning, it will be taken as a curse.

25:20 Like one who takes away a garment on a cold day, or like vinegar poured on soda, is one who sings songs to a heavy heart.

25:17 Seldom set foot in your neighbor's house-- too much of you, and he will hate you.

12:10 A righteous man cares for the needs of his animal, but the kindest acts of the wicked are cruel.

17:3 The crucible for silver and the furnace for gold, but the LORD tests the heart.

17:13 If a man pays back evil for good, evil will never leave his house.

18:2 A fool finds no pleasure in understanding but delights in airing his own opinions.

18:13 He who answers before listening-- that is his folly and his shame.

19:11 A man's wisdom gives him patience; it is to his glory to overlook an offense.

20:19 A gossip betrays a confidence; so avoid a man who talks too much.

24:17-18 Do not gloat when your enemy falls; when he stumbles, do not let your heart rejoice, or the LORD will see and disapprove and turn his wrath away from him.

(We also added a telephone etiquette class on Friday, since I have a pet peeve about children who answer the phone ;o)

Caring for the Poor

Memory verse: Proverbs 14:21 He who despises his neighbor sins, but blessed is he who is kind to the needy.

Story Illustrating:
The Good Samaritan - Luke 10:25-37

Others:
Dorcas - Acts 9:36-41

14:31 He who oppresses the poor shows contempt for their Maker, but whoever is kind to the needy honors God.

17:5 He who mocks the poor shows contempt for their Maker; whoever gloats over disaster will not go unpunished.

19:17 He who is kind to the poor lends to the LORD, and he will reward him for what he has done.

21:13 If a man shuts his ears to the cry of the poor, he too will cry out and not be answered.

22:9 A generous man will himself be blessed, for he shares his food with the poor.

28:27 He who gives to the poor will lack nothing, but he who closes his eyes to them receives many curses.

22:16 He who oppresses the poor to increase his wealth and he who gives gifts to the rich--both come to poverty.

22:22 Do not exploit the poor because they are poor and do not crush the needy in court,

23 for the LORD will take up their case and will plunder those who plunder them.

29:7 The righteous care about justice for the poor, but the wicked have no such concern.

31:8-9 "Speak up for those who cannot speak for themselves, for the rights of all who are destitute.

Speak up and judge fairly; defend the rights of the poor and needy."

Generosity

Memory Verse: Proverbs 22:9 A generous man will himself be blessed, for he shares his food with the poor.

Story Illustrating:

Dorcas - Acts 9:36-41

Others:

King of Sodom to Abraham

Mary Magdalene

11:24-25 One man gives freely, yet gains even more; another withholds unduly, but comes to poverty.

A generous man will prosper; he who refreshes others will himself be refreshed.

3:28 Do not say to your neighbor, "Come back later; I'll give it tomorrow"-- when you now have it with you.

Ahab - 1 Kings 21

23:6-8 Do not eat the food of a stingy man, do not crave his delicacies;

for he is the kind of man who is always thinking about the cost.

"Eat and drink," he says to you, but his heart is not with you.

You will vomit up the little you have eaten and will have wasted your compliments.

Integrity/Honesty

Memory Verse: Proverbs 12:22 The LORD detests lying lips, but he delights in men who are truthful.

Story Illustrating:
Daniel - Daniel 6

Others:

Overseers of the Temple Repairs 2 Kings 12:15; 22:4-7

Treasurers of the Temple Ne. 13:13

Joseph's brothers cruelly deceive their father - Gen.37:29-35

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

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

11:5-10 The righteousness of the blameless makes a straight way for them, but the wicked are brought down by their own wickedness.

The righteousness of the upright delivers them, but the unfaithful are trapped by evil desires.

When a wicked man dies, his hope perishes; all he expected from his power comes to nothing.

The righteous man is rescued from trouble, and it comes on the wicked instead.

With his mouth the godless destroys his neighbor, but through knowledge the righteous escape.

When the righteous prosper, the city rejoices; when the wicked perish, there are shouts of joy.

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

17:26 It is not good to punish an innocent man, or to flog officials for their integrity.

26:2 Like a fluttering sparrow or a darting swallow, an undeserved curse does not come to rest.

12:17 A truthful witness gives honest testimony, but a false witness tells lies.

12:19 Truthful lips endure forever, but a lying tongue lasts only a moment.

12:22 The LORD detests lying lips, but he delights in men who are truthful.

15:4 The tongue that brings healing is a tree of life, but a deceitful tongue crushes the spirit.

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

17:20 A man of perverse heart does not prosper; he whose tongue is deceitful falls into trouble.

19:9 A false witness will not go unpunished, and he who pours out lies will perish.

21:28 A false witness will perish, and whoever listens to him will be destroyed forever.

16:11 Honest scales and balances are from the LORD; all the weights in the bag are of his making.

17:23 A wicked man accepts a bribe in secret to pervert the

course of justice.

20:10 Differing weights and differing measures-- the LORD detests them both.

20:23 The LORD detests differing weights, and dishonest scales do not please him.

23:10-11 Do not move an ancient boundary stone or encroach on the fields of the fatherless, for their Defender is strong; he will take up their case against you.

25:13 Like the coolness of snow at harvest time is a trustworthy messenger to those who send him; he refreshes the spirit of his masters.

25:19 Like a bad tooth or a lame foot is reliance on the unfaithful in times of trouble.

3:3-4 Let love and faithfulness never leave you; bind them around your neck, write them on the tablet of your heart. Then you will win favor and a good name in the sight of God and man.

10:7 The memory of the righteous will be a blessing, but the name of the wicked will rot.

11:16-17 A kindhearted woman gains respect, but ruthless men gain only wealth.

A kind man benefits himself, but a cruel man brings trouble on himself.

21:3 To do what is right and just is more acceptable to the LORD than sacrifice.

22:1 A good name is more desirable than great riches; to be esteemed is better than silver or gold.

Parents and Children

Memory Verse: Proverbs 11:29 He who brings trouble on his family will inherit only wind, and the fool will be servant to the wise.

Story Illustrating:

Eli's Sons | Sam 2:12-4:11

Others:

Ruth 1:1-6

Jesus Luke 2:51-52

Samuel's sons 1 Sam 8:3

1:8-9 Listen, my son, to your father's instruction and do not forsake your mother's teaching. They will be a garland to grace your head and a chain to adorn your neck.

6:20-23 My son, keep your father's commands and do not forsake your mother's teaching.

Bind them upon your heart forever; fasten them around your neck.

When you walk, they will guide you; when you sleep, they will watch over you; when you awake, they will speak to you.

For these commands are a lamp, this teaching is a light, and the

corrections of discipline are the way to life

23:22 Listen to your father, who gave you life, and do not despise your mother when she is old.

30:17 "The eye that mocks a father, that scorns obedience to a mother, will be pecked out by the ravens of the valley, will be eaten by the vultures.

17:21 To have a fool for a son brings grief; there is no joy for the father of a fool.

19:26 He who robs his father and drives out his mother is a son who brings shame and disgrace.

20:20 If a man curses his father or mother, his lamp will be snuffed out in pitch darkness.

28:24 He who robs his father or mother and says, "It's not wrong"-- he is partner to him who destroys.

13:24 He who spares the rod hates his son, but he who loves him is careful to discipline him.

15:5 A fool spurns his father's discipline, but whoever heeds correction shows prudence.

19:18 Discipline your son, for in that there is hope; do not be a willing party to his death.

22:15 Folly is bound up in the heart of a child, but the rod of discipline will drive it far from him.

23:13-16 Do not withhold discipline from a child; if you punish him with the rod, he will not die.

Punish him with the rod and save his soul from death.

My son, if your heart is wise, then my heart will be glad; my inmost being will rejoice when your lips speak what is right.

29:15 The rod of correction imparts wisdom, but a child left to himself disgraces his mother.

29:17 Discipline your son, and he will give you peace; he will bring delight to your soul.

10:1 A wise son brings joy to his father, but a foolish son grief to his mother.

15:20 A wise son brings joy to his father, but a foolish man despises his mother.

23:24-25 The father of a righteous man has great joy; he who has a wise son delights in him.

May your father and mother be glad; may she who gave you birth rejoice!

20:11 Even a child is known by his actions, by whether his conduct is pure and right.

22:6 Train a child in the way he should go, and when he is old he will not turn from it.

Sound Judgement/Discernment

Memory Verse: Proverbs 3:21-26 My son, preserve sound judgment and discernment, do not let them out of your sight; they will be life for you, an ornament to grace your neck.

Then you will go on your way in safety, and your foot will not stumble;

when you lie down, you will not be afraid; when you lie down,

your sleep will be sweet.
Have no fear of sudden disaster or of the ruin that overtakes the wicked,
for the LORD will be your confidence and will keep your foot from being snared.

Story Illustrating:

David tries to bring the Ark of the Covenant to Jerusalem, but without Levites carrying it. 1 Chron. 13

(I did the following verses on the Monday along with the story to help them understand)

4:23-27 Above all else, guard your heart, for it is the wellspring of life.

Put away perversity from your mouth; keep corrupt talk far from your lips.

Let your eyes look straight ahead, fix your gaze directly before you.

Make level paths for your feet and take only ways that are firm.

Do not swerve to the right or the left; keep your foot from evil.

19:2-3 It is not good to have zeal without knowledge, nor to be hasty and miss the way.

A man's own folly ruins his life, yet his heart rages against the LORD.

21:16 A man who strays from the path of understanding comes to rest in the company of the dead.

5:21-23 For a man's ways are in full view of the LORD, and he examines all his paths.

The evil deeds of a wicked man ensnare him; the cords of his sin hold him fast.

He will die for lack of discipline, led astray by his own great folly.

10:13 Wisdom is found on the lips of the discerning, but a rod is for the back of him who lacks judgment.

18:15 The heart of the discerning acquires knowledge; the ears of the wise seek it out.

22:3 A prudent man sees danger and takes refuge, but the simple keep going and suffer for it.

10:21 The lips of the righteous nourish many, but fools die for lack of judgment.

11:12 A man who lacks judgment derides his neighbor, but a man of understanding holds his tongue.

17:28 Even a fool is thought wise if he keeps silent, and discerning if he holds his tongue.

14:6-8 The mocker seeks wisdom and finds none, but knowledge comes easily to the discerning.

Stay away from a foolish man, for you will not find knowledge on his lips.

The wisdom of the prudent is to give thought to their ways, but the folly of fools is deception.

15:14 The discerning heart seeks knowledge, but the mouth of a fool feeds on folly.

15:21 Folly delights a man who lacks judgment, but a man of understanding keeps a straight course.

25:16 If you find honey, eat just enough-- too much of it, and you will vomit.

25:28 Like a city whose walls are broken down is a man who lacks self-control.

Pride/Humility

Memory Verse: Proverbs 29:23 A man's pride brings him low, but a man of lowly spirit gains honor.

Story Illustrating:
Haman and Mordecai in Esther

Others:
Nebuchadnezzar - Daniel 4
Joseph

16:5 The LORD detests all the proud of heart. Be sure of this: They will not go unpunished.

18:2 A fool finds no pleasure in understanding but delights in airing his own opinions.

21:4 Haughty eyes and a proud heart, the lamp of the wicked, are sin!

3:7-8 Do not be wise in your own eyes; fear the LORD and shun evil. This will bring health to your body and nourishment to your bones.

3:33-34 The LORD's curse is on the house of the wicked, but he blesses the home of the righteous.

He mocks proud mockers but gives grace to the humble.

11:2 When pride comes, then comes disgrace, but with humility comes wisdom.

13:10 Pride only breeds quarrels, but wisdom is found in those who take advice.

15:25 The LORD tears down the proud man's house but he keeps the widow's boundaries intact.

15:33 The fear of the LORD teaches a man wisdom, and humility comes before honor.

22:4 Humility and the fear of the LORD bring wealth and honor and life.

25:27 It is not good to eat too much honey, nor is it honorable to seek one's own honor.

27:2 Let another praise you, and not your own mouth; someone else, and not your own lips.

16:18-19 Pride goes before destruction, a haughty spirit before a fall.

Better to be lowly in spirit and among the oppressed than to share plunder with the proud.

18:12 Before his downfall a man's heart is proud, but humility comes before honor.

25:6-7 Do not exalt yourself in the king's presence, and do not claim a place among great men;

it is better for him to say to you, "Come up here," than for him to humiliate you before a nobleman.

Accepting Just Criticism/Guidance

Memory Verse: Proverbs 19:20 Listen to advice and accept instruction, and in the end you will be wise.

Story Illustrating:
Aaron & Miriam - Numbers 12

3:11-12 My son, do not despise the LORD's discipline and do not resent his rebuke, because the LORD disciplines those he loves, as a father^[2] the son he delights in.

15:31-32 He who listens to a life-giving rebuke will be at home among the wise.

He who ignores discipline despises himself, but whoever heeds correction gains understanding.

16:20 Whoever gives heed to instruction prospers, and blessed is he who trusts in the LORD.

19:16 He who obeys instructions guards his life, but he who is contemptuous of his ways will die.

9:7-9 "Whoever corrects a mocker invites insult; whoever rebukes a wicked man incurs abuse.

Do not rebuke a mocker or he will hate you; rebuke a wise man and he will love you.

Instruct a wise man and he will be wiser still; teach a righteous man and he will add to his learning.

10:8 The wise in heart accept commands, but a chattering fool comes to ruin.

13:13-14 He who scorns instruction will pay for it, but he who respects a command is rewarded.

The teaching of the wise is a fountain of life, turning a man from the snares of death.

13:18 He who ignores discipline comes to poverty and shame, but whoever heeds correction is honored.

12:1 Whoever loves discipline loves knowledge, but he who hates correction is stupid.

13:1 A wise son heeds his father's instruction, but a mocker does not listen to rebuke.

15:12 A mocker resents correction; he will not consult the wise.

17:10 A rebuke impresses a man of discernment more than a hundred lashes a fool.

29:1 A man who remains stiff-necked after many rebukes will suddenly be destroyed--without remedy.

11:14 For lack of guidance a nation falls, but many advisers make victory sure.

12:15 The way of a fool seems right to him, but a wise man listens to advice.

15:22 Plans fail for lack of counsel, but with many advisers they

succeed.

20:18 Make plans by seeking advice; if you wage war, obtain guidance.

Deceitfulness of Wealth

Memory Verse: Proverbs 11:28 Whoever trusts in his riches will fall, but the righteous will thrive like a green leaf.

Story Illustrating:

King Hezekiah's pride in his wealth - 2 Kings 20

23:1-5 When you sit to dine with a ruler, note well what is before you,

and put a knife to your throat if you are given to gluttony.

Do not crave his delicacies, for that food is deceptive.

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.

11:24-28 One man gives freely, yet gains even more; another withholds unduly, but comes to poverty.

A generous man will prosper; he who refreshes others will himself be refreshed.

People curse the man who hoards grain, but blessing crowns him who is willing to sell.

He who seeks good finds goodwill, but evil comes to him who searches for it.

Whoever trusts in his riches will fall, but the righteous will thrive like a green leaf.

28:22 A stingy man is eager to get rich and is unaware that poverty awaits him.

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

19:4-7 Wealth brings many friends, but a poor man's friend deserts him.

Many curry favor with a ruler, and everyone is the friend of a man who gives gifts.

A poor man is shunned by all his relatives-- how much more do his friends avoid him! Though he pursues them with pleading, they are nowhere

to be found.

18:11 The wealth of the rich is their fortified city; they imagine it an unscalable wall.

30:7-9 "Two things I ask of you, O LORD; do not refuse me before I die:

Keep falsehood and lies far from me; 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.

Others:

The rich man and the bigger barns Luke 12:15-21

11:4 Wealth is worthless in the day of wrath, but righteousness delivers from death.

The Use of Money

Memory Verse: Proverbs 3:9-10 Honor the LORD with your wealth, with the firstfruits of all your crops; then your barns will be filled to overflowing, and your vats will brim over with new wine.

Story Illustrating:

Abram rescues Lot and honors God with 1/10th of everything.
Gen. 14

12:9 Better to be a nobody and yet have a servant than pretend to be somebody and have no food.

13:11 Dishonest money dwindles away, but he who gathers money little by little makes it grow.

22:16 He who oppresses the poor to increase his wealth and he who gives gifts to the rich--both come to poverty.

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

22:26-27 Do not be a man who strikes hands in pledge or puts up security for debts;

if you lack the means to pay, your very bed will be snatched from under you.

23:6-8 Do not eat the food of a stingy man, do not crave his delicacies;

for he is the kind of man who is always thinking about the cost. "Eat and drink," he says to you, but his heart is not with you.

You will vomit up the little you have eaten and will have wasted your compliments.

22:9 A generous man will himself be blessed, for he shares his food with the poor.

Others:

Jacob pledges to Give God 1/10th of everything. Gen 28

Hot Temper

Memory Verse: Proverbs 29:11 A fool gives full vent to his anger, but a wise man keeps himself under control.

Story Illustrating:

Balaam - Numbers 22

14:16-17 A wise man fears the LORD and shuns evil, but a fool is hotheaded and reckless.

A quick-tempered man does foolish things, and a crafty man is hated.

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

12:16-18 A fool shows his annoyance at once, but a prudent man overlooks an insult.

A hot-tempered man stirs up dissension, but a patient man calms a quarrel.

15:28 The heart of the righteous weighs its answers, but the mouth of the wicked gushes evil.

16:32 Better a patient man than a warrior, a man who controls his temper than one who takes a city.

17:27 A man of knowledge uses words with restraint, and a man of understanding is even-tempered.

19:19 A hot-tempered man must pay the penalty; if you rescue him, you will have to do it again.

22:24-25 Do not make friends with a hot-tempered man, do not associate with one easily angered,

or you may learn his ways and get yourself ensnared.

29:22 An angry man stirs up dissension, and a hot-tempered one commits many sins.

Perversity & Foolish Talk

Memory Verse: 12:18 Reckless words pierce like a sword, but the tongue of the wise brings healing.

Story Illustrating:

Ananias & Sapphira - Acts 5

13:3 He who guards his lips guards his life, but he who speaks rashly will come to ruin.

14:3 A fool's talk brings a rod to his back, but the lips of the wise protect them.

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

15:28 The heart of the righteous weighs its answers, but the mouth of the wicked gushes evil.

16:23 A wise man's heart guides his mouth, and his lips promote instruction.

16:24 Pleasant words are a honeycomb, sweet to the soul and healing to the bones.

4:24 Put away perversity from your mouth; keep corrupt talk far from your lips.

12:18 Reckless words pierce like a sword, but the tongue of the wise brings healing.

17:27 A man of knowledge uses words with restraint, and a man of understanding is even-tempered.

Others:

Joseph - Gen. 37

21:23 He who guards his mouth and his tongue keeps himself from calamity.

18:2 A fool finds no pleasure in understanding but delights in airing his own opinions.

18:6-7 A fool's lips bring him strife, and his mouth invites a beating.

A fool's mouth is his undoing, and his lips are a snare to his soul.

Offense & Quarrels

Memory Verse: Proverbs 12:16 A fool shows his annoyance at once, but a prudent man overlooks an insult.

Stories Illustrating:

Cain & Abel - Gen. 4

Others:

Joseph's Brothers - Gen. 37

10:12 Hatred stirs up dissension, but love covers over all wrongs.

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

15:18 A hot-tempered man stirs up dissension, but a patient man calms a quarrel.

17:9 He who covers over an offense promotes love, but whoever repeats the matter separates close friends.

17:14 Starting a quarrel is like breaching a dam; so drop the matter before a dispute breaks out.

17:19 He who loves a quarrel loves sin; he who builds a high gate invites destruction.

18:19 An offended brother is more unyielding than a fortified city, and disputes are like the barred gates of a citadel.

19:11 A man's wisdom gives him patience; it is to his glory to overlook an offense.

20:3 It is to a man's honor to avoid strife, but every fool is quick to quarrel.

Strife and Contention

Memory Verse: Proverbs 30:33 For as churning the milk produces butter, and as twisting the nose produces blood, so stirring up anger produces strife.

Story Illustrating:
Abraham & Lot's herdsmen - Gen. 13

Others:
David, Nabal, and Abigail - 1 Sam. 25

15:17 Better a meal of vegetables where there is love than a fattened calf with hatred.
17:1 Better a dry crust with peace and quiet than a house full of feasting, with strife.

6:12-19 A scoundrel and villain, who goes about with a corrupt mouth,
who winks with his eye, signals with his feet and motions with his fingers,
who plots evil with deceit in his heart-- he always stirs up dissension.
Therefore disaster will overtake him in an instant; he will suddenly be destroyed--without remedy.
There are six things the LORD hates, seven that are detestable to him:
haughty eyes, a lying tongue, hands that shed innocent blood,
a heart that devises wicked schemes, feet that are quick to rush into evil,
a false witness who pours out lies and a man who stirs up dissension among brothers.

16:28 A perverse man stirs up dissension, and a gossip separates close friends
20:3 It is to a man's honor to avoid strife, but every fool is quick to quarrel.
26:21 As charcoal to embers and as wood to fire, so is a quarrelsome man for kindling strife.

16:7 When a man's ways are pleasing to the LORD, he makes even his enemies live at peace with him.
22:10 Drive out the mocker, and out goes strife; quarrels and insults are ended.

Trust in the Lord

Memory Verse: Proverbs 21:30 There is no wisdom, no insight, no plan that can succeed against the LORD.

Story Illustrating:
Gideon - Judges 6 - 7

3:5-6 Trust in the LORD with all your heart and lean not on your own understanding; in all your ways acknowledge him, and he will make your paths straight.
16:2-3 All a man's ways seem innocent to him, but motives are weighed by the LORD.

Commit to the LORD whatever you do, and your plans will succeed.

10:3 The LORD does not let the righteous go hungry but he thwarts the craving of the wicked.

10:24 What the wicked dreads will overtake him; what the righteous desire will be granted.

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

16:20 Whoever gives heed to instruction prospers, and blessed is he who trusts in the LORD.

21:2 All a man's ways seem right to him, but the LORD weighs the heart.

16:9 In his heart a man plans his course, but the LORD determines his steps.

19:21 Many are the plans in a man's heart, but it is the LORD's purpose that prevails.

27:1 Do not boast about tomorrow, for you do not know what a day may bring forth.

14:32 When calamity comes, the wicked are brought down, but even in death the righteous have a refuge.

18:10 The name of the LORD is a strong tower; the righteous run to it and are safe.

29:25 Fear of man will prove to be a snare, but whoever trusts in the LORD is kept safe.

Wisdom /Fear of God

Memory Verse: Proverbs 9:10-12 The fear of the LORD is the beginning of wisdom, and knowledge of the Holy One is understanding. For through me your days will be many, and years will be added to your life. If you are wise, your wisdom will reward you; if you are a mocker, you alone will suffer."

Story Illustrating:
Noah

Others:
Shadrach, Meshach, & Abednego

2:1-15 My son, if you accept my words and store up my commands within you,

2 turning your ear to wisdom and applying your heart to understanding,

3 and if you call out for insight and cry aloud for understanding,

4 and if you look for it as for silver and search for it as for hidden treasure,

5 then you will understand the fear of the LORD and find the knowledge of God.

6 For the LORD gives wisdom, and from his mouth come knowledge and understanding.

7 He holds victory in store for the upright, he is a shield to those whose walk is blameless,
8 for he guards the course of the just and protects the way of his faithful ones.
9 Then you will understand what is right and just and fair--every good path.
10 For wisdom will enter your heart, and knowledge will be pleasant to your soul.
11 Discretion will protect you, and understanding will guard you.
12 Wisdom will save you from the ways of wicked men, from men whose words are perverse,
13 who leave the straight paths to walk in dark ways,
14 who delight in doing wrong and rejoice in the perverseness of evil,
15 whose paths are crooked and who are devious in their ways.

1:28-33 "Then they will call to me but I will not answer; they will look for me but will not find me.
29 Since they hated knowledge and did not choose to fear the LORD,
30 since they would not accept my advice and spurned my rebuke,
31 they will eat the fruit of their ways and be filled with the fruit of their schemes.
32 For the waywardness of the simple will kill them, and the complacency of fools will destroy them;
33 but whoever listens to me will live in safety and be at ease, without fear of harm."
22:17-19 Pay attention and listen to the sayings of the wise; apply your heart to what I teach,
18 for it is pleasing when you keep them in your heart and have all of them ready on your lips.
19 So that your trust may be in the LORD, I teach you today, even you.

8:11 for wisdom is more precious than rubies, and nothing you desire can compare with her.
11:30 The fruit of the righteous is a tree of life, and he who wins souls is wise.
16:16 How much better to get wisdom than gold, to choose understanding rather than silver!
22:4 Humility and the fear of the LORD bring wealth and honor and life.

14:26-27 He who fears the LORD has a secure fortress, and for his children it will be a refuge.
The fear of the LORD is a fountain of life, turning a man from the snares of death.
19:23 The fear of the LORD leads to life: Then one rests content, untouched by trouble.
24:14 Know also that wisdom is sweet to your soul; if you find it, there is a future hope for you, and your hope will not be cut off.

Working Versus Laziness

Memory Verse: Proverbs 10:4 Lazy hands make a man poor, but diligent hands bring wealth.

Story Illustrating:
Jacob working for Laban - Gen.29-31

10:4-5 Lazy hands make a man poor, but diligent hands bring wealth.

He who gathers crops in summer is a wise son, but he who sleeps during harvest is a disgraceful son.

28:19 He who works his land will have abundant food, but the one who chases fantasies will have his fill of poverty.

12:27 The lazy man does not roast his game, but the diligent man prizes his possessions.

14:4 Where there are no oxen, the manger is empty, but from the strength of an ox comes an abundant harvest.

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

18:9 One who is slack in his work is brother to one who destroys.

19:15 Laziness brings on deep sleep, and the shiftless man goes hungry.

21:17 He who loves pleasure will become poor; whoever loves wine and oil will never be rich.

23:20-21 Do not join those who drink too much wine or gorge themselves on meat, for drunkards and gluttons become poor, and drowsiness clothes them in rags.

6:6-11 Go to the ant, you sluggard; consider its ways and be wise!

It has no commander, no overseer or ruler, yet it stores its provisions in summer and gathers its food at harvest.

How long will you lie there, you sluggard? When will you get up from your sleep?

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.

21:25-26 The sluggard's craving will be the death of him, because his hands refuse to work.

All day long he craves for more, but the righteous give without sparing.

22:13 The sluggard says, "There is a lion outside!" or, "I will be murdered in the streets!"

20:4 A sluggard does not plow in season; so at harvest time he looks but finds nothing.

10:26 As vinegar to the teeth and smoke to the eyes, so is a sluggard to those who send him.

13:4 The sluggard craves and gets nothing, but the desires of the diligent are fully satisfied.

15:19 The way of the sluggard is blocked with thorns, but the path of the upright is a highway.

26:13-16 The sluggard says, "There is a lion in the road, a fierce lion roaming the streets!"

As a door turns on its hinges, so a sluggard turns on his bed.
The sluggard buries his hand in the dish; he is too lazy to bring it back to his mouth.

The sluggard is wiser in his own eyes than seven men who answer discreetly.

24:30-34 I went past the field of the sluggard, past the vineyard of the man who lacks judgment;
thorns had come up everywhere, the ground was covered with weeds, and the stone wall was in ruins.

I applied my heart to what I observed and learned a lesson from what I saw:

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.

20:13 Do not love sleep or you will grow poor; stay awake and you will have food to spare.

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

21:20 In the house of the wise are stores of choice food and oil, but a foolish man devours all he has.

27:18 He who tends a fig tree will eat its fruit, and he who looks after his master will be honored.

27:23-27 Be sure you know the condition of your flocks, give careful attention to your herds;
for riches do not endure forever, and a crown is not secure for all generations.

When the hay is removed and new growth appears and the grass from the hills is gathered in,
the lambs will provide you with clothing, and the goats with the price of a field.

You will have plenty of goats' milk to feed you and your family and to nourish your servant girls.

22:29 Do you see a man skilled in his work? He will serve before kings; he will not serve before obscure men.

Personal Characteristics

Memory Verse: Proverbs 22:11 He who loves a pure heart and whose speech is gracious will have the king for his friend.

Story Illustrating:

Rahab and her family are spared by the spies because of their thankfulness to her. - Joshua 6:22-25

Others:

The serpents bite the Israelites because of their complaining about no food or water. - Numbers 21:5-6

10:11 The mouth of the righteous is a fountain of life, but violence overwhelms the mouth of the wicked.

12:14 From the fruit of his lips a man is filled with good things as surely as the work of his hands rewards him.

12:20 There is deceit in the hearts of those who plot evil, but joy for those who promote peace.

17:27 A man of knowledge uses words with restraint, and a man of understanding is even-tempered.

17:28 Even a fool is thought wise if he keeps silent, and discerning if he holds his tongue.

19:19 A hot-tempered man must pay the penalty; if you rescue him, you will have to do it again.

25:28 Like a city whose walls are broken down is a man who lacks self-control.

14:29-30 A patient man has great understanding, but a quick-tempered man displays folly.

A heart at peace gives life to the body, but envy rots the bones.

16:32 Better a patient man than a warrior, a man who controls his temper than one who takes a city.

19:11 A man's wisdom gives him patience; it is to his glory to overlook an offense.

15:13 A happy heart makes the face cheerful, but heartache crushes the spirit.

15:30 A cheerful look brings joy to the heart, and good news gives health to the bones.

16:15 When a king's face brightens, it means life; his favor is like a rain cloud in spring.

12:25 An anxious heart weighs a man down, but a kind word cheers him up.

16:24 Pleasant words are a honeycomb, sweet to the soul and healing to the bones.

17:22 A cheerful heart is good medicine, but a crushed spirit dries up the bones.

27:19 As water reflects a face, so a man's heart reflects the man.

20:11 Even a child is known by his actions, by whether his conduct is pure and right.

18:1 An unfriendly man pursues selfish ends; he defies all sound judgment.

21:2 All a man's ways seem right to him, but the LORD weighs the heart.

22:11 He who loves a pure heart and whose speech is gracious will have the king for his friend.

25:13 Like the coolness of snow at harvest time is a trustworthy messenger to those who send him; he refreshes the spirit of his masters.