



SMALL GROUP STUDY

God's Advice

The book of Proverbs gives us wisdom, a skill set to live well. It is one of the most read books in the Old Testament. It is the third of the five poetic books and is the first book written by King Solomon. A proverb is a short statement that takes the place of long words.

The Fear of God vs. Fear of Man

The fear of the Lord is reverential awe that produces humble submission to God. It's because we love Him, that we revere Him. We dread doing something that would displease Him.

Discussion Questions:

- What is the fear of the Lord and what can it do for you? Proverbs 1:7, 16:6, 8:13, 14:26-27
- What are some other Proverbs that reference the fear of the Lord? (there are 18 altogether)
- How will the fear of the Lord impact your quality of life? Proverbs 14:26, 27

Diligent Person vs. Lazy Person

As followers of God we should be concerned about the quality of work we do. Proverbs is very colorful with the comparisons and contrasts between a Lazy man versus a diligent man.

Discussion Questions:

- In what ways do we find a lazy man won't finish things? Proverbs 12:27, 19:24
- What are some of the excuses a lazy man gives for not facing things? Proverbs 20:4, 26:14
- Examine your heart: how are you as a Christian worker marked for diligence?

A Wholesome Tongue vs. Unwholesome Tongue

This is an issue for every one of us. We all deal with difficulty in taming the tongue. In Proverbs 6:16-19 we find a list of things that God hates; understandably, three out of the seven items in the list deal with sins of the tongue.

Discussion Questions:

- By reverse analogy what are 7 things that God loves? Proverbs 6:16-19
- How have words effected your emotions? Proverbs 12:18, 25 Give examples good and bad.
- Examine your heart: Have your or do you use your words to hurt or manipulate others?

Friendship vs. Isolation

Wholesome relationships between buddies, husbands and wives, children and parents provide a fortifying, strengthening influence. Friend is one of the greatest titles you can give to someone. And, what an honor to be called a friend by someone else.

Discussion Questions:

- What is the value of a friend? Proverbs 17:17, 27:17
- How can you develop friendships? Proverbs 18:24 What initiative will you take this week?
- What kind of woman will be praised? Proverbs 31:30
- Why was Solomon so wise? How can you be wise?