

	<h1>LESSONS FOR LIVING FROM THE PROVERBS</h1>	
	Session Five	

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<h2>Recap Session Four – The SPOKEN WORD</h2>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Our words are powerful, for both good or evil. • The opposite of truth-telling is lying; Satan is the father of lies. • Just as our eyes take in food for our souls, our mouths emit words that reveal the essence of our character. • Gossip and excessive talking are the result of sin and are to be avoided. • Our tongues are trained by our hearts to speak the right words at the right time. • The proper use of wholesome words brings life and health to those who hear them. 	<p>Prov. 18:21 <i>Death and life are in the power of the tongue, And those who love it will eat its fruit.</i></p> <p>Prov. 16:27-28 <i>An ungodly man digs up evil, And it is on his lips like a burning fire. A perverse man sows strife, And a whisperer separates the best of friends.</i></p> <p>Prov. 16:24 <i>Pleasant words are like a honeycomb, Sweetness to the soul and health to the bones.</i></p>
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	<h1>DILIGENT WORKER</h1>	
	Topic 8	3

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	<h1>DILIGENT WORKER</h1>	<p>Prov. 22:29 (KJV) <i>Seest thou a man diligent in his business? He shall stand before kings; he shall not stand before [average] men.</i></p> <p>Prov. 12:27 <i>The lazy man does not roast what he took in hunting, But diligence is man's precious possession.</i></p>
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<p>Prov. 6:6-11 <i>Go to the ant, you sluggard! Consider her ways and be wise, Which, having no captain, Overseer or ruler, Provides her supplies in the summer, And gathers her food in the harvest. How long will you slumber, O sluggard? When will you rise from your sleep? A little sleep, a little slumber, A little folding of the hands to sleep— So shall your poverty come on you like a proowler, And your need like an armed man.</i></p>	<p>Prov. 24:30-34 <i>I went by the field of the lazy man, And by the vineyard of the man devoid of understanding; And there it was, all overgrown with thorns; Its surface was covered with nettles; Its stone wall was broken down. When I saw it, I considered it well; I looked on it and received instruction: A little sleep, a little slumber, A little folding of the hands to rest; So shall your poverty come like a prowler, And your need like an armed man.</i></p>
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<p>Use the Interpretation Tool to examine these verses ...</p>	<p>Prov. 26:14-16 ¹⁴ <i>As a door turns on its hinges, So does the lazy man on his bed.</i> ¹⁵ <i>The lazy man buries his hand in the bowl; It wearies him to bring it back to his mouth.</i> ¹⁶ <i>The lazy man is wiser in his own eyes Than seven men who can answer sensibly.</i></p>
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<h2>Tool to Interpret</h2>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. What are the central concepts or persons being compared or contrasted? 2. Identify figures of speech and rephrase without the figure (ex. “put a knife to your throat” from Prov. 23:1-3) 3. Summarize the lesson or principle of the proverb in a few words. 4. Describe the behavior that is being taught or encouraged. 5. Can you identify examples elsewhere in Scripture that illustrates the truth of that proverb? 6. How can you apply this lesson or principle to your own life? <p style="text-align: right;">7</p>
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<p>Prov. 20:4 <i>The lazy man will not plow because of winter; He will beg during harvest and have nothing.</i></p> <p>Prov. 12:11 <i>He who tills his land will be satisfied with bread, But he who follows frivolity is devoid of understanding.</i></p>	<p>Prov. 16:26 <i>The person who labors, labors for himself, For his hungry mouth drives him on.</i></p> <p>2 Thess. 3:10 <i>For even when we were with you, we commanded you this: If anyone will not work, neither shall he eat.</i></p> <p style="text-align: right;">8</p>
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	<p>Admonishments on laziness ...</p>										
	<p style="text-align: right;">9</p>										

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<p>What's going on here?</p>	<p>Prov. 22:13 <i>The lazy man says, "There is a lion outside! I shall be slain in the streets!"</i></p>
	<p style="text-align: right;">10</p>

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<p>The benefits of diligence ...</p>	<p>Prov. 14:23 <i>In all labor there is profit, But idle chatter leads only to poverty.</i></p> <p>Prov. 21:5 <i>The plans of the diligent lead surely to plenty, But those of everyone who is hasty, surely to poverty.</i></p> <p>Prov. 12:24 <i>The hand of the diligent will rule, But the lazy man will be put to forced labor.</i></p>
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	<p>Prov. 10:16 <i>The labor of the righteous leads to life, The wages of the wicked to sin.</i></p> <p>1 Corin. 15:58 <i>Therefore, my beloved brethren, be steadfast, immovable, always abounding in the work of the Lord, knowing that your labor is not in vain in the Lord.</i></p>
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	<h1>DISCIPLINE</h1>	
	Topic 9	13

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	<h1>DISCIPLINE</h1>	<p>Prov. 3:11-12</p> <p><i>My son, do not despise the chastening of the Lord, Nor detest His correction; For whom the Lord loves He corrects, Just as a father the son in whom he delights.</i></p>
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<p>Deut. 8:5 <i>You should know in your heart that as a man chastens his son, so the Lord your God chastens you.</i></p> <p>Job 5:17-18 <i>“Behold, happy is the man whom God corrects; Therefore do not despise the chastening of the Almighty. For He bruises, but He binds up; He wounds, but His hands make whole.”</i></p> <p>Rev. 3:19 <i>As many as I love, I rebuke and chasten. Therefore be zealous and repent.</i></p>	<p>Hebrews 12:5-11 <i>And you have forgotten the exhortation which speaks to you as to sons:</i> <i>“My son, do not despise the chastening of the Lord, Nor be discouraged when you are rebuked by Him; For whom the Lord loves He chastens, And scourges every son whom He receives.”</i> <i>If you endure chastening, God deals with you as with sons; for what son is there whom a father does not chasten? But if you are without chastening, of which all have become partakers, then you are illegitimate and not sons. Furthermore, we have had human fathers who corrected us, and we paid them respect. Shall we not much more readily be in subjection to the Father of spirits and live? For they indeed for a few days chastened us as seemed best to them, but He for our profit, that we may be partakers of His holiness. Now no chastening seems to be joyful for the present, but painful; nevertheless, afterward it yields the peaceable fruit of righteousness to those who have been trained by it.</i></p> <p style="text-align: right;">15</p>
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<div style="border: 1px solid black; width: 60px; height: 40px; display: inline-block; margin-right: 10px;"></div> <h2 style="margin: 0;">Disciplining children ...</h2>	
<p>Prov. 22:15 <i>Foolishness is bound up in the heart of a child; The rod of correction will drive it far from him.</i></p> <p>Prov. 23:13-14 <i>Do not withhold correction from a child, For if you beat him with a rod, he will not die. You shall beat him with a rod, And deliver his soul from hell.</i></p> <p>Prov. 29:15 <i>The rod and rebuke give wisdom, But a child left to himself brings shame to his mother.</i></p> <p>Prov. 20:30 <i>Blows that hurt cleanse away evil, As do stripes the inner depths of the heart.</i></p>	<p>Prov. 19:18 (NIV) <i>Discipline your children, for in that there is hope; do not be a willing party to their death.</i></p> <p>Prov. 29:17 <i>Correct your son, and he will give you rest; Yes, he will give delight to your soul.</i></p> <p style="text-align: right;">16</p>

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<p>Prov. 10:17 (RSV) <i>He who heeds instruction is on the path to life, but he who rejects reproof goes astray.</i></p>	<p>Prov. 13:18 (NIV) <i>Whoever disregards discipline comes to poverty and shame, but whoever heeds correction is honored.</i></p>
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Summary ...	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • We are all called to be diligent in our work, whatever our vocation may be. • Our basic need for food drives us to work; if we neglect this, we will experience poverty, hunger and lack of basic needs. • Diligence brings its own rewards, including ample provisions of food and financial resources. 	<p>Prov. 10:16 <i>The labor of the righteous leads to life, The wages of the wicked to sin.</i></p> <p>Prov. 3:11-12 <i>My son, do not despise the chastening of the Lord, Nor detest His correction; For whom the Lord loves He corrects, Just as a father the son in whom he delights.</i></p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Discipline is a part of the Christian life; we are disciplined by God just as a child is disciplined by his father. • Just as a child's behavior over time improves with proper discipline, we also benefit from God's discipline as we mature and grow in our faith. 	
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	QUESTIONS?	
		Favorite Proverb?
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<p>If time permits ...</p>	<p>Prov. 23:1-3 <i>When you sit down to eat with a ruler, Consider carefully what is before you; And put a knife to your throat If you are a man given to appetite. Do not desire his delicacies, For they are deceptive food.</i></p> <p>Prov. 21:1 <i>The king's heart is in the hand of the Lord, Like the rivers of water; He turns it wherever He wishes.</i></p> <p>Prov. 14:10 <i>The heart knows its own bitterness, And a stranger does not share its joy.</i></p> <p>Prov. 21:31 <i>The horse is prepared for the day of battle, But deliverance is of the Lord.</i></p>	20
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<h2>Class Assignment</h2>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Set a goal to read through the Book of Proverbs at least once throughout this class semester. • Bring your questions for proverbs you have trouble understanding, or a favorite proverb that you would like to share with the class. 	
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<h2>Possible Future Topics</h2>				
	Teaching sons and daughters	Choice of Companions	Trusting God	Righteousness vs. Wickedness
	Integrity	Guard Your Mind	Discipline	Shine the Light of Christ
	Sexual Purity	Deceitful Tongue	Diligent Worker	Leave a Legacy
	Money Management	Love Your Neighbor	God's Protection	Virtuous Woman
	Avoid the World's Distractions	Truth	Types of Fools	Seeking Counsel
	God Hides Himself	Sin of Pride	Discernment	Anger / Temper
	Honor Your Parents	Revenge	Conscience	Repentance
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