

Study Guide on Proverbs 28

“Wisdom, Integrity, and the Blessings of Righteous Living”

Overview of Proverbs 28

Book of Proverbs Proverbs 28 teaches practical wisdom concerning integrity, righteousness, leadership, honesty, generosity, humility, and reverence for God. The chapter contrasts the security and peace of the righteous with the instability and fear that accompany wickedness and selfish living.

A major focus of Proverbs 28 is the condition of the heart. The chapter reminds believers that true blessing comes not through greed, pride, or dishonesty, but through obedience, humility, confession, and faithful living before God.

Key Theme

Godly wisdom produces integrity, courage, humility, generosity, and a life rooted in righteousness and reverence for God.

Historical Context

The Proverbs were primarily written and compiled during the reign of King Solomon, whose wisdom became renowned throughout the ancient world (1 Kings 4:29–34). Proverbs 28 reflects practical instruction for leaders, families, workers, and communities in Israel.

Hebrew wisdom literature emphasized that righteous living brings stability and blessing, while sin and foolishness eventually produce destruction and unrest.

Five Major Lessons from Proverbs 28

1. Righteous Living Produces Courage and Peace

Key Scripture

“The wicked flee when no man pursueth: but the righteous are bold as a lion.” — Proverbs 28:1

Explanation

A guilty conscience creates fear and instability, while righteous living produces confidence and peace. People walking in integrity do not need to live in constant fear of exposure or judgment.

True boldness comes from living honestly before God.

Supporting Scriptures

- Psalm 27:1
- Acts 4:29–31
- 2 Timothy 1:7

Application

- Walk honestly and faithfully before God.
- Let integrity shape your decisions.
- Trust God rather than living in fear.

Discussion Questions

1. Why does guilt create fear?
2. How does righteousness produce confidence?
3. What areas of life require greater integrity?

Sticky Quote

“Integrity gives courage because truth has nothing to hide.”

2. Reverence for God Brings Wisdom

Key Scripture

“Happy is the man that feareth alway...” — Proverbs 28:14

Explanation

The fear of the Lord means living with reverence, humility, and awareness of God's authority. Wisdom grows when believers remain sensitive to God's correction and guidance rather than becoming spiritually hardened.

Reverence keeps the heart humble and teachable.

Supporting Scriptures

- Proverbs 1:7
- Psalm 111:10
- Hebrews 12:28

Application

- Stay sensitive to God's conviction and guidance.
- Walk humbly before the Lord daily.
- Avoid spiritual pride and stubbornness.

Discussion Questions

1. What does it mean to fear the Lord?
2. Why do hardened hearts resist wisdom?
3. How does reverence shape daily living?

Sticky Quote

“A heart that reveres God remains open to His wisdom.”

3. Confession and Repentance Lead to Mercy

Key Scripture

“He that covereth his sins shall not prosper: but whoso confesseth and forsaketh them shall have mercy.” —
Proverbs 28:13

Explanation

Trying to hide sin leads to spiritual bondage and distance from God, but confession and repentance open the door to forgiveness, restoration, and mercy.

Wisdom acknowledges failure honestly before God rather than pretending or hiding.

Supporting Scriptures

- 1 John 1:9
- Psalm 32:5
- James 5:16

Application

- Confess sin honestly before God.
- Turn away from destructive behaviors.
- Walk in humility and repentance daily.

Discussion Questions

1. Why do people try to hide sin?
2. How does confession bring freedom?
3. What is the difference between regret and repentance?

Sticky Quote

“Hidden sin grows heavier, but confessed sin opens the door to mercy.”

4. Greed and Dishonesty Lead to Destruction

Key Scripture

“He that hasteth to be rich hath an evil eye...” —
Proverbs 28:22

Explanation

The desire for quick wealth can lead people into dishonesty, selfishness, greed, and poor decisions. Proverbs warns believers not to allow money or possessions to become idols.

Wisdom values integrity and contentment over selfish ambition.

Supporting Scriptures

- 1 Timothy 6:9–10

- Matthew 6:24
- Hebrews 13:5

Application

- Pursue faithfulness rather than greed.
- Practice generosity and contentment.
- Avoid dishonest shortcuts for financial gain.

Discussion Questions

1. Why is greed spiritually dangerous?
2. How does contentment protect the heart?
3. What role does generosity play in godly living?

Sticky Quote

“When money becomes the goal, wisdom is often sacrificed along the way.”

5. Generosity Brings Blessing

Key Scripture

“He that giveth unto the poor shall not lack...” —
Proverbs 28:27

Explanation

God honors generosity and compassion toward those in need. Wise people understand that blessings are meant to be shared rather than hoarded selfishly.

Generosity reflects trust in God as the ultimate provider.

Supporting Scriptures

- 2 Corinthians 9:6–8
- Luke 6:38
- Galatians 6:9–10

Application

- Look for opportunities to help others.
- Give generously with humility and joy.
- Trust God to provide as you bless others.

Discussion Questions

1. Why does generosity reflect spiritual maturity?
2. What prevents people from giving freely?
3. How does generosity strengthen faith?

Sticky Quote

“A generous heart trusts God more than possessions.”

Major Themes in Proverbs 28

Theme	Meaning
Righteousness	Integrity produces courage and peace
Reverence for God	Humility keeps the heart teachable
Repentance	Confession brings mercy and restoration
Contentment	Greed leads to destruction
Generosity	Compassion reflects trust in God
Wisdom	Wise living honors God and blesses others

Life Application

Proverbs 28 challenges believers to examine:

- Their integrity and righteousness
- Their willingness to confess sin
- Their attitude toward money and possessions
- Their generosity toward others
- Their reverence and humility before God

Wisdom is demonstrated through honest living, humility, repentance, and faithful stewardship.

Final Reflection

Proverbs 28 teaches that true wisdom produces courage, integrity, humility, generosity, and repentance. The chapter reminds believers that God blesses righteous living and calls His people to walk honestly, humbly, and faithfully before Him.

Final Challenge

Ask yourself:

- Am I walking in integrity before God?
- Do I confess sin honestly and quickly?
- Is greed or selfishness affecting my heart?
- Am I generous with what God has given me?
- Is my life marked by reverence and humility?

Closing Prayer

“Lord, help me walk in righteousness, humility, and wisdom. Teach me to confess sin honestly, live with integrity, and trust You rather than wealth or possessions. Give me a generous heart and a teachable spirit that seeks Your guidance daily. Let my life reflect Your truth, mercy, and faithfulness in every area. Amen.”