

# **Bible Study Guide: Proverbs 13**

**Title: “Wise Choices, Strong Life”**

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## **1. Author & Context**

- **Author:** Solomon
- **Theme:** The power of choices—especially in speech, discipline, relationships, and work
- **Focus:** How daily decisions shape long-term outcomes

### **Context:**

Proverbs 13 is a series of contrasts showing that **wisdom is revealed through how we live, speak, and respond to correction.**

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## **2. Key Scripture (Written Out)**

### **Proverbs 13:20**

“Walk with the wise and become wise, for a companion of fools suffers harm.”

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## **3. Chapter Breakdown & Teaching Points**

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## **Point 1: A Wise Person Receives Correction (v. 1)**

### **Main Truth:**

Teachability is the foundation of wisdom.

### **Contrast:**

- Wise → Accepts discipline
- Foolish → Rejects correction

### **Application:**

- Be open to instruction
- Growth requires humility

### **Supporting Scripture:**

- Hebrews 12:11

“No discipline seems pleasant at the time... but later it produces a harvest of righteousness...”

### **Sticky Quote:**

*“If you can’t be corrected, you can’t be improved.”*

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## **Point 2: Guard Your Words (vv. 2–3)**

### **Main Truth:**

Your words shape your life.

## **Key Insight:**

- Careful speech brings life
- Reckless words bring destruction

## **Application:**

- Think before speaking
- Use words to build, not harm

## **Supporting Scripture:**

- James 1:19

“Everyone should be quick to listen, slow to speak...”

## **Sticky Quote:**

*“What you say today can shape your tomorrow.”*

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## **Point 3: Discipline Leads to Growth (vv. 4, 18)**

### **Main Truth:**

Desire alone is not enough—discipline is required.

### **Contrast:**

- Lazy person → Wants but lacks
- Diligent person → Works and prospers

### **Application:**

- Develop consistent habits
- Stay committed even when it's hard

### **Supporting Scripture:**

- Galatians 6:9

“Let us not become weary in doing good...”

### **Sticky Quote:**

*“Dreams without discipline stay dreams.”*

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## **Point 4: Walk with the Right People (v. 20)**

### **Main Truth:**

Your relationships shape your future.

### **Key Insight:**

- Wise friends → Growth
- Foolish friends → Harm

### **Application:**

- Evaluate your circle
- Surround yourself with people who challenge and sharpen you

### **Supporting Scripture:**

- 1 Corinthians 15:33

“Bad company corrupts good character.”

**Sticky Quote:**

*“Your circle will either build you or break you.”*

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**Point 5: Righteous Living Brings Stability (vv. 6, 9, 21)**

**Main Truth:**

Living right produces a strong, stable life.

**Key Insight:**

- Righteousness protects
- Wickedness leads to downfall

**Application:**

- Choose integrity even when it’s difficult
- Focus on long-term character, not short-term gain

**Supporting Scripture:**

- Psalm 1:3

“That person is like a tree planted by streams of water...”

**Sticky Quote:**

*“A steady life is built on righteous choices.”*

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## **Point 6: Hope and Fulfillment (v. 12)**

### **Main Truth:**

Hope deferred brings discouragement—but fulfillment brings life.

### **Key Insight:**

- Waiting is part of growth
- God’s timing matters

### **Application:**

- Don’t give up when things take time
- Stay faithful while you wait

### **Supporting Scripture:**

- Romans 5:3-4

“Suffering produces perseverance; perseverance, character; and character, hope.”

### **Sticky Quote:**

*“Delay is not denial—it’s development.”*

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## **Point 7: Respect God’s Word (v. 13)**

### **Main Truth:**

How you treat God’s Word determines your outcome.

## **Key Insight:**

- Ignoring God's instruction leads to loss
- Respecting it brings reward

## **Application:**

- Take God's Word seriously
- Apply it consistently

## **Sticky Quote:**

*"Your response to God's Word shapes your future."*

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## **4. Major Themes**

### **1. Teachability**

- Growth comes through correction

### **2. Speech Matters**

- Words have power to build or destroy

### **3. Discipline Produces Results**

- Consistency leads to success

### **4. Relationships Influence Direction**

- Choose your circle wisely

### **5. Righteousness Brings Stability**

- Character leads to lasting strength

## **6. Patience in the Process**

- God works through waiting
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## **5. Life Application**

### **Reflection Questions**

1. Am I open to correction and growth?
  2. Are my words building others up or tearing them down?
  3. What habits do I need to strengthen?
  4. Who is influencing my life right now?
  5. Am I trusting God in seasons of waiting?
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### **Action Steps**

- **Invite correction** from trusted people
  - **Guard your speech daily**
  - **Build disciplined habits**
  - **Surround yourself with wise influences**
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## **6. Teaching Outline (Quick Use)**

**Title:** *Wise Choices, Strong Life*

1. Be Teachable
  2. Guard Your Words
  3. Practice Discipline
  4. Choose the Right People
  5. Live Righteously
  6. Trust the Process
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**7. Big Idea**

**“The choices you make daily—how you speak, who you follow, and how you live—determine the strength and direction of your life.”**