

Bible Study Guide: Proverbs 22 – Wisdom for Life, Legacy, and Character

Overview

Author: Solomon

Theme: Reputation, humility, discipline, parenting, and wise living

Big Idea:

A life of wisdom builds a strong reputation, shapes future generations, and honors God through humility and discipline.

Section 1: The Value of a Good Name (Proverbs 22:1)

Scripture (Key Verse)

“A good name is more desirable than great riches...”

Main Point

Your reputation is more valuable than wealth.

Explanation

Solomon teaches that character and integrity are worth more than material success. A good name reflects a life lived with honor and consistency.

Application

- Protect your reputation through integrity
- Make decisions based on long-term character, not short-term gain
- Value how God sees you above how people see you

Discussion Questions

- What kind of reputation are you building?
 - How do your daily choices affect your “good name”?
-

Section 2: Humility and the Fear of the Lord (Proverbs 22:4)

Scripture (Key Verse)

“Humility is the fear of the Lord; its wages are riches and honor and life.”

Main Point

Humility before God leads to blessing and life.

Explanation

Humility is closely tied to reverence for God. Those who recognize their dependence on Him experience true reward—spiritual and often practical.

Application

- Walk humbly before God
- Depend on Him in all areas of life
- Avoid pride and self-reliance

Discussion Questions

- What does humility look like in your daily life?
 - Where might pride be holding you back?
-

Section 3: The Principle of Cause and Effect (Proverbs 22:8–9)

Scripture (Key Verse)

“Whoever sows injustice reaps calamity...” (v.8)

Main Point

Your actions have consequences—good or bad.

Explanation

Life operates on a principle of sowing and reaping. Generosity leads to blessing, while injustice leads to trouble.

Application

- Be intentional about what you “plant” in life

- Practice generosity and kindness
- Recognize that choices shape outcomes

Discussion Questions

- What are you currently sowing in your life?
 - What kind of harvest are you expecting?
-

Section 4: The Power of Words and Influence (Proverbs 22:10–11, 24–25)

Scripture (Key Verse)

“Do not make friends with a hot-tempered person...”
(v.24)

Main Point

Your relationships and words shape your life.

Explanation

The people you associate with influence your behavior and character. Wise people choose their relationships carefully.

Application

- Evaluate your circle of influence
- Surround yourself with wise, godly people

- Avoid relationships that lead you into negativity or sin

Discussion Questions

- Who influences your life the most?
 - Are your relationships helping you grow or pulling you away?
-

Section 5: Training the Next Generation (Proverbs 22:6,15)

Scripture (Key Verse)

“Start children off on the way they should go...” (v.6)

Main Point

Intentional training shapes future lives.

Explanation

This principle emphasizes the importance of early guidance and discipline. The values we instill have long-lasting impact.

Application

- Invest time in mentoring and discipling others
- Be intentional about teaching truth and values

- Lead by example

Discussion Questions

- How are you influencing the next generation?
 - What values are you passing on?
-

Section 6: Wealth, Debt, and Responsibility (Proverbs 22:7, 26–27)

Scripture (Key Verse)

“The borrower is slave to the lender.” (v.7)

Main Point

Financial decisions carry long-term consequences.

Explanation

Debt can create bondage and limit freedom. Wisdom calls for careful financial stewardship and responsibility.

Application

- Be wise with money and avoid unnecessary debt
- Live within your means
- Practice stewardship and planning

Discussion Questions

- How are you managing your finances?
 - What steps can you take toward financial wisdom?
-

Section 7: Pursuing Wisdom (Proverbs 22:17–21)

Scripture (Key Verse)

“Pay attention and turn your ear to the sayings of the wise...” (v.17)

Main Point

Wisdom must be intentionally received and applied.

Explanation

Solomon urges listeners to actively receive instruction and apply it. Wisdom is not passive—it requires attention and action.

Application

- Be intentional about learning and growing
- Apply what you learn from Scripture
- Stay consistent in seeking God’s truth

Discussion Questions

- How do you actively pursue wisdom?
- What is one truth you need to apply right now?

Key Takeaways from Proverbs 22

- A good reputation is more valuable than wealth
- Humility and reverence for God lead to life
- Actions produce consequences—choose wisely
- Relationships shape your direction
- Training and influence impact future generations
- Financial wisdom is essential for freedom
- Wisdom must be pursued intentionally

Life Application Challenge

This week:

- Make a decision that protects your reputation
- Practice humility in a specific situation
- Evaluate one key relationship
- Take a step toward financial or personal responsibility
- Invest in someone younger or less experienced

Closing Prayer

“Lord, help me to live with integrity, humility, and wisdom. Guide my decisions, shape my character, and use

my life to influence others for good. Teach me to honor
You in every area—my relationships, my resources, and
my legacy. Amen.”