

Study Guide on Proverbs 22

“Wisdom, Integrity, and Building a Godly Legacy”

Overview of Proverbs 22

Book of Proverbs Proverbs 22 teaches practical wisdom concerning integrity, humility, parenting, finances, generosity, relationships, and reverence for God. The chapter emphasizes that character is more valuable than riches and that wise living affects not only the individual but future generations as well.

This chapter also highlights the importance of training children, avoiding destructive influences, practicing diligence, and walking in humility before God.

Key Theme

Godly wisdom produces integrity, humility, generosity, discipline, and a lasting spiritual legacy.

Historical Context

The Proverbs were primarily written and compiled during the reign of King Solomon, who was known for the wisdom God gave him (1 Kings 4:29–34). Proverbs 22

reflects practical instruction for families, leaders, workers, and communities within ancient Israel.

Hebrew wisdom literature focused on teaching skillful living rooted in reverence for God. Much of Proverbs 22 centers on how daily choices shape character, relationships, and future generations.

Five Major Lessons from Proverbs 22

1. A Good Reputation Is More Valuable Than Wealth

Key Scripture

“A good name is rather to be chosen than great riches...”
— Proverbs 22:1

Explanation

Character and integrity are worth more than financial success or public status. Wealth can disappear, but a godly reputation built on honesty, faithfulness, and righteousness leaves a lasting impact.

God values who we are more than what we possess.

Supporting Scriptures

- Ecclesiastes 7:1
- 1 Timothy 3:7
- Matthew 5:16

Application

- Live honestly and faithfully.
- Protect your testimony and reputation.
- Value integrity above financial gain.

Discussion Questions

1. Why does society often prioritize wealth over character?
2. What builds a strong reputation?
3. How does integrity influence others?

Sticky Quote

“Riches may impress people temporarily, but character impacts them eternally.”

2. Humility and Reverence for God Bring Blessing

Key Scripture

“By humility and the fear of the Lord are riches, and honour, and life.” — Proverbs 22:4

Explanation

True blessing flows from humility and reverence for God. Pride leads people away from dependence on God, while humility positions believers to receive His wisdom, guidance, and grace.

The fear of the Lord means honoring, obeying, and trusting God fully.

Supporting Scriptures

- James 4:10
- Psalm 111:10
- 1 Peter 5:5–6

Application

- Walk humbly before God and others.
- Submit your life to God’s wisdom.
- Reject pride and self-reliance.

Discussion Questions

1. Why is humility difficult?
2. How does reverence for God shape decision-making?
3. What are signs of genuine humility?

Sticky Quote

“Humility opens the door for God’s wisdom to lead your life.”

3. Wise People Recognize Danger and Avoid It

Key Scripture

“A prudent man foreseeth the evil, and hideth himself...”
— Proverbs 22:3

Explanation

Wisdom recognizes danger, temptation, and destructive paths before consequences occur. Foolishness ignores warnings and moves carelessly into harmful situations.

Godly wisdom includes discernment and wise decision-making.

Supporting Scriptures

- Ephesians 5:15–16
- 1 Peter 5:8
- Proverbs 14:16

Application

- Avoid environments that encourage sin or compromise.
- Think carefully before making decisions.
- Stay spiritually alert and discerning.

Discussion Questions

1. Why do people ignore warning signs?

2. What situations require spiritual discernment today?
3. How does wisdom protect believers?

Sticky Quote

“Wisdom sees danger early while foolishness notices it too late.”

4. Train the Next Generation Carefully

Key Scripture

“Train up a child in the way he should go...” — Proverbs 22:6

Explanation

Parents and spiritual leaders carry the responsibility of guiding children toward godly wisdom and truth. Spiritual training includes teaching Scripture, modeling faithfulness, and shaping character through consistent instruction and example.

A godly legacy is built intentionally.

Supporting Scriptures

- Deuteronomy 6:6–7
- Ephesians 6:4
- 2 Timothy 1:5

Application

- Invest spiritually in children and younger believers.
- Teach biblical truth consistently.
- Model faith through daily living.

Discussion Questions

1. Why is spiritual training important?
2. How do adults influence younger generations?
3. What practical ways build a godly legacy?

Sticky Quote

“Children often learn wisdom more from what we live than what we say.”

5. Diligence Opens Doors for Influence

Key Scripture

“Seest thou a man diligent in his business? he shall stand before kings...” — Proverbs 22:29

Explanation

Faithfulness, excellence, and diligence often lead to greater opportunities and influence. Proverbs teaches that wise people work responsibly and consistently rather than carelessly or lazily.

God honors faithful stewardship and hard work.

Supporting Scriptures

- Colossians 3:23
- Proverbs 10:4
- Galatians 6:9

Application

- Work faithfully in every responsibility.
- Pursue excellence with humility.
- View your work as service to God.

Discussion Questions

1. Why does diligence matter spiritually?
2. How can believers honor God through work?
3. What habits strengthen faithfulness and consistency?

Sticky Quote

“Faithfulness in ordinary responsibilities often leads to extraordinary opportunities.”

Major Themes in Proverbs 22

Theme	Meaning
Integrity	Character matters more than riches
Humility	Reverence for God leads to blessing

Theme	Meaning
Discernment	Wisdom recognizes danger early
Parenting	Godly training shapes future generations
Diligence	Faithfulness and excellence honor God
Wisdom	Wise living impacts both present and future

Life Application

Proverbs 22 challenges believers to examine:

- Their reputation and integrity
- Their humility before God
- Their discernment in daily decisions
- Their influence on younger generations
- Their diligence and faithfulness in responsibilities

Wisdom is demonstrated through godly character, wise choices, and intentional living.

Final Reflection

Proverbs 22 teaches that true wisdom produces integrity, humility, discernment, diligence, and a lasting spiritual legacy. The chapter reminds believers that daily choices shape not only their own lives but also the lives of future generations.

Final Challenge

Ask yourself:

- Is my character honoring God?
 - Am I walking in humility and reverence?
 - Do I recognize and avoid spiritual danger?
 - What kind of legacy am I building?
 - Am I faithful in the responsibilities God has given me?
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Closing Prayer

“Lord, help me walk in wisdom, integrity, and humility. Teach me to make wise decisions, faithfully serve others, and build a godly legacy through my words, actions, and example. Give me discernment to avoid harmful paths and strength to live faithfully in every responsibility You have entrusted to me. Amen.”