



Proverbs 1 - 4

Week 2

Understanding the Text

Read Proverbs 1:1-7

1. What title is presented for this section of Proverbs in verse 1?

2. What is the stated purpose/goal of the book?

3. What is the key to the book as stated in verse 7?

Read Proverbs 1:8-19 – 1st Paternal Appeal – To Grow in Wisdom

4. Summarize the father's counsel/warning to his son (and by extension, to us).

5. What are the benefits of heeding the counsel of godly parents (wisdom)?

6. What is the consequence for following the enticement of sinners?



Read Proverbs 2:1-22 – 2nd Paternal Appeal – Pursue Wisdom; It will Protect You!

7. In verses 1-4, the loving father presents conditions to his son that lead to extraordinary blessings in verses 5-11. What are the conditions?

8. What blessings will be received in verse 5?

9. How is the LORD's gift of wisdom protective to those who receive it? What other blessings does He give?

10. From verses 12-19 and 22, from what type of people will God's wisdom deliver us? Where do their paths ultimately lead?

11. What earthly blessing results from pursuing wisdom? (verses 20-21)

Read Proverbs 3:1-12 – 3rd Paternal Appeal – Fear the LORD

12. Summarize the instructions given by the father in this passage.

13. Why should we not despise LORD's discipline?



Read Proverbs 3:21-35 – 4th Paternal Appeal – Walk Securely in Wisdom

14. Summarize the counsel given by the father in verses 27-30 for walking with your neighbor.

15. Verses 30-35 remind us of the blessing that come to those who walk in wisdom. What are those blessings? How do they differ from the consequences to those who choose to disregard wisdom?

Read Proverbs 4:1-9 – 5th Paternal Appeal – Wisdom is to be Passed Down

16. Why is the son to be attentive to the father's counsel?

17. What lessons did the grandfather pass down to his son?

Read Proverbs 4:20-27 – 7th Paternal Appeal – Stay on the Right Path!

18. Summarize the father's counsel, paying close attention to the parts of the body noted in the passage.

19. Which "body part" is key to ensuring life?



Big Picture

1. What can we learn about Solomon from the following passages:
 - a. 1 Kings 1:28-40

 - b. 1 Kings 3:1-14

 - c. 1 Kings 10:1-13

2. What do you learn about “the fear of the LORD” from the following passages?
 - a. Psalm 34:11

 - b. Psalm 19:7-9

Gospel Grace

1. In 1 Kings 4:29-31 we learn that “God gave Solomon wisdom and understanding beyond measure, and breadth of mind like the sand on the seashore. ... For he was wiser than all other men.” We also learned in 1 Kings 10:1-13, that the Queen of Sheba told Solomon that his “wisdom and prosperity surpass the report that I heard.” Yet in the New Testament we see that Jesus, the wisdom of God incarnate, is greater than Solomon (Matthew 12:42). What do you learn about Jesus from the following passages?
 - a. Matthew 13:54

 - b. Corinthians 1:18-31



c. Colossians 2:2-3

Application

1. Proverbs 1:7 tells us that the fear of the LORD is the beginning of wisdom and that fools despise wisdom and instruction. Does your life demonstrate that you fear the LORD or that you despise wisdom and instruction? If needed, take time to confess your foolish ways and to ask for help in developing an appropriate fear of the LORD.
2. James 1:5 promises that God will give wisdom generously to all who ask Him. Take time to assess where you are lacking in godly wisdom. Now, ask Him to use this study to help you to grow in godly wisdom and to apply it in everyday life for your growth in grace and His ultimate glory.
3. If you are a parent, how will your parenting change as a result of studying these chapters? Be specific.
4. Which verse(s) spoke to you or ministered to a specific need in your life this week? How/Why?

Extra

What verse(s) will you choose to memorize from this week's lesson to strengthen your faith or bring edification to those around you?



Proverbs 5-7 Week 3

Understanding the Text

Read Proverbs 5 and answer the following questions

1. What instrument does the adulteress use to lure her prey?
2. What is the son instructed to do in response to this danger?
3. What is the son commanded to pursue instead?
4. Toward the end of the lecture, the father draws the son's attention to theology. What attribute of God does the father highlight?

Read Proverbs 6:1-19 and answer the following questions

5. To "become surety" or "put up security" means to assume responsibility for someone's debt should they fail to pay it. On the surface, this may seem like an act of kindness, but how does Proverbs portray it?
6. What excuse does the sluggard make?



7. What does the rebellious man do specifically to spread strife in his community?

Read Proverbs 6:20-35 and answer the following questions

8. How can the son protect himself against the evil woman?

9. What is adultery compared to in this section?

Read Proverbs 7 and answer the following questions

10. Where was the young man walking?

11. Describe the woman that he meets in your own words.

12. Thinking back to 5:3 and 6:24, what does the woman say that is “smooth” and “sweet”?



Big Picture

1. The foundational text for human sexuality is Genesis 2:24. Important cross-references include Matthew 19:5, 1 Corinthians 6:16, and Ephesians 5:31. Based on these Scriptures, what is marriage? Make sure your definition says something about the physical and spiritual nature of marriage.
2. How does Jesus command us to deal with impure lust in Matthew 5:27-30?

Gospel Grace

1. In the parable of the two sons in Matthew 21:28-32, Jesus told the chief priests and elders that “prostitutes will get into the kingdom of God before you.” What about the prostitutes made them more likely to enter the kingdom of God than the religious leaders?
2. Read Psalm 51. What are a few characteristics of someone who is sincerely repenting from sin in general?
3. How does Jesus show mercy to an adulteress in John 4?



Application

1. What are some important guard rails that you have established in your life to keep you from falling into sexual sin? How do you “keep your way far from her” (Proverbs 5:8; 7:25)?
2. Proverbs 5:15-19 candidly exhorts married persons to enjoy the physical pleasures of marriage. Discuss with your spouse privately how faithful you are being to one another in this area.
3. Pornography is a rampant evil in our culture, and it has unfortunately gained a foothold among many of God’s people. If someone were to come to you for help with this sin, how would you minister the word of God to them?
4. Which verse(s) spoke to you or ministered to a specific need in your life this week?
How/Why?

Extra

What verse(s) will you choose to memorize from this week’s lesson to strengthen your faith or bring edification to those around you?



Proverbs 8 - 9 Week 4

Understanding the Text

Read Proverbs 8:1-36 – Wisdom’s 2nd Appeal – A Call to Love Wisdom!

1. In this chapter we see wisdom personified as a woman who calls out to all who will hear. What does Wisdom exhort her audience to do in verses 6-8 and what motivations does she detail? In verse 9, what sort of person will recognize the truth of Wisdom’s words? What does Wisdom exhort her audience to do in verses 10-11 and what motivations does she detail?

2. In verses 12-21, how does Wisdom describe her character/attributes? What blessings are associated with walking in/possessing wisdom?

3. In verses 22-31, how does Wisdom describe her origin? How does Wisdom describe her role in creation?

4. In verses 32-36, who does Wisdom call blessed? What rewards are there for those who find wisdom? What consequences are there for those who fail to find and heed wisdom?



PROVERBS: GET WISE

Read Proverbs 9:1-18 – Rival Banquets Set by Wisdom and Folly – Which Will You Choose?

Compare and contrast the rival banquets –

Wisdom's in verses 1-6 and Folly's in verses 13-18:

	Wisdom's Banquet	Folly's Banquet
How is the hostess described? What preparations has she made?		
From where is her invitation sent? And by whom?		
To whom is the invitation directed?		
What does she offer? (literally and figuratively)		
Where does each choice lead?		

5. In the table above, we see that the invitation to the banquet was not extended to the scoffer. What reason can you find for that in verses 7-8a?

6. What is the key to being teachable and able to receive wisdom's instruction? (verse 10)



Big Picture

1. In Proverbs 8:22-31, we see that Wisdom was there at the creation of the world. What do the following passages teach us about Jesus' role in creation:
 - a. John 1:1-3
 - b. Colossians 1:16-17
 - c. Hebrews 1:2

Gospel Grace

1. In Proverbs 8:5, Wisdom invites the simple to learn prudence and the fools to learn sense by accepting her teaching. Now read Mathew 11:27-30. What does Jesus offer to those who come to learn from Him? How does His offer cause you to love Him more?
2. In Proverbs 9, Wisdom offers the simple and those who lack sense to "Come, eat of my bread and drink of the wine I have mixed. Leave your simple ways, and live, and walk in the way of insight." Now read John 6:22-59. What does Jesus offer? How is His offer superior to that of Lady Wisdom?



Application

1. Proverbs 8 extols the virtues of Wisdom and asks the reader to make a choice between loving Wisdom and diligently seeking her or not! Likewise, Proverbs 9 asks the reader to make a choice between turning to Wisdom that leads to life and turning to Folly that leads to death. Which choice have you made? How does your daily walk demonstrate your choice? If you have yet to make the choice to seek wisdom, take time to consider your future. What, if any, changes do you need to make in order to grow in wisdom? What might you need to give up?
2. If you are a parent, how will your parenting change as a result of studying these two chapters? Be specific.
3. Which verse(s) spoke to you or ministered to a specific need in your life this week? How/Why?

Extra

What verse(s) will you choose to memorize from this week's lesson to strengthen your faith or bring edification to those around you?



Proverbs 10-12
Week 5

Understanding the Text

List 2-3 verses from each chapter that speak to the following topics:

The Tongue:

Wealth:

1. According to these Proverbs, what are the dangers of being a person who speaks too much?
2. What are the benefits/blessings of those who are wise with their speech?
3. Which Proverbs list the dangers of trusting in riches? Why can't wealth be trusted?
4. Are there any other major topics/themes mentioned in these chapters? Note 2-3 below, including references.



Big Picture

1. The power of the tongue is a big theme in these three chapters. Let's look at other parts of the Bible that speak to this same topic. Look up the following verses and jot down what they say about the tongue.
 - a. Psalm 141:3

 - b. Colossians 4:6

 - c. James 3:1-12

 - d. Luke 4:22

2. What does Jesus say about our words? What do they reveal about a person? See Matthew 12:34.

3. How does our wealth correlate to our heart according to Jesus? See Matthew 6:19-20?



Gospel Grace

1. Look at Proverbs 11:4. What is the day of wrath? What will deliver us from death? Who is our righteousness? (2 Corinthians 5:21).

2. As you read through these Proverbs, what do you learn about God's character? What does He require of us as sons/daughters? Take some time to meditate on what grace we need as fallen sinners and all that God has provided to us through Christ, His perfect Son.

3. Jesus is the ultimate example of humility. In what tangible ways can we imitate that humility? What comes with humility? See Proverbs 11:2 and Philippians 2.

Application

1. If you were being honest, what does your mouth reveal about you and your heart? Is there anything to change about the way you are living/speaking? Making it even more personal—is there anyone in particular in your life that you need to “clean up” your speech with?

2. Based on the instruction of these Proverbs, do you see any ways you are using/viewing your God-given wealth that need to shift?

4. Which verse(s) spoke to you or ministered to a specific need in your life this week? How/Why?



Extra

What verse(s) will you choose to memorize from this week's lesson to strengthen your faith or bring edification to those around you?



Proverbs 13-14 Week 6

Understanding the Text

List 2-3 verses from each chapter that speak to the following topics

Wealth:

Knowledge:

1. How can one be rich yet have nothing, and another can be poor and yet have great riches?
2. What are the advantages of correction and reproof?
3. Why is it that a foolish person often cannot be convinced to change his ways? How does this differ from a wise person?
4. How should we treat the poor? What are the consequences of failing to do so?



5. Are there any other major topics/themes in these chapters? Note 2-3 below, including references.

Big Picture

1. How does the sensible man differ from the naïve? What is the inherent danger in believing everything? Read about King Joash and Jehoiada in 2 Chronicles 24 and 2 Kings 11-12. How could Joash benefit from Proverbs 14.15-18?
2. The fear of the Lord is mentioned multiple time in Proverbs. How would the original readers have interpreted this?

Gospel Grace

1. We are called to be the salt and light of the world as Jesus was. How does this relate to Proverbs 13.20? (See Matthew 5. 13-16)
2. Paul explains in 1 Corinthians 1.18-31 that in Christ there is wisdom and power to those who believe, but it is folly to those who do not. Take some time thanking the Lord that He chose you – the foolish, the weak, and the despised, and because of Him you can boast in the Lord.



Application

1. Explain what inheritance a good man leaves for future generations. Do you think that this inheritance only refers to money? Is that only the world view? Discuss what else a man can leave, good or bad as an inheritance to future generations. Are there steps for you to take in leaving an inheritance or steps to encourage someone that is leaving their inheritance to you?
2. The saying goes, "You are who you hang out with." Are you a good person to hang out with? What effect do your friends have on you? What practical steps can you take to walk with others who are wiser than you? What about investing in others who could benefit by walking with you?
3. Which verse(s) spoke to you or ministered to a specific need in your life this week? How/Why?

Extra

What verse(s) will you choose to memorize from this week's lesson to strengthen your faith or bring edification to those around you?



Proverbs 15-16 Week 7

Understanding the Text

List 2-3 verses from each chapter that speak to the following topics:

Diligence/laziness:

Pride/humility:

1. How is a person's character demonstrated by what he feeds upon?
2. List the things we ought to listen to and what will be the effects?
3. What does a haughty spirit look like?
4. When is it most necessary to use persuasive speech in the Christian life?
5. Are there any other major topics/themes mentioned in these chapters?



Big Picture

1. What do we learn about the plans that people make according to 16.1 and also verses 9 and 33? List examples of people whose plans failed because God had other plans?
2. Give some biblical examples of people whose pride led to a downfall.

Gospel Grace

1. To whom does 16:10 apply? How do we know the difference between punishment and discipline and what applies to the believer? See Hebrews 12:6-8.
2. Why can't a believer ever actually experience God's punishment? See Romans 8:1.
3. What does 16:4 refer to and what will be the Christian's experience on "the day of trouble"?

Application

1. When are you most tempted to answer harshly? Is there ever a place for scolding? Read Ephesians 4:26-27. How does anger give the devil a foothold in relationships?



2. According to 15:18, can anger that pours forth from one's mouth ever be without effect in the life of the hearer?

3. Are there places in your life that are "off limits" to prayer because either it is "too small to pray about" OR "the answer seems obvious"? How does 16:1-3 and Ephesians 6:18-20 speak to these attitudes?

4. Which verse(s) spoke to you or ministered to a specific need in your life this week?
How/Why?

Extra

What verse(s) will you choose to memorize from this week's lesson to strengthen your faith or bring edification to those around you?



Proverbs 17-19
Week 8

Understanding the Text

List 2-3 verses from each chapter that speak to the following topics

Words:

Poverty:

1. How do the things you have seen regarding poverty and wealth relate to the fool?
2. How does God react to people who care for the poor? How does this differ from the way people often think?
3. How does physical sickness compare to a broken spirit? Which is worse?
4. What kinds of speech are unbecoming? Explain why each of these examples of speech is unbecoming?



5. Are there any other major topics/themes in these chapters? Note 2-3 below, including references.

Big Picture

1. In chapter 10 we looked at the effect of the mouth – what we say and how we say it. This continues in chapter 17, but with a twist. How often does it refer to not speaking? List what you learn about remaining silent.
2. We read in Proverbs 18 that sickness is easier to bear than a broken spirit. Read Exodus 4.27-6.9. See how a crushed or broken spirit cannot only cripple a person, but also an entire nation.

Gospel Grace

1. “The name of the Lord is a strong tower; the righteous man runs into it.” How comforting is it to know that the Lord is our strong tower? Read Psalm 24.8, 61.3, 89.13 and 136.12 and spend some time thanking the Lord for His unwavering love and security.

Application

1. What effect can our words have on others? How can you speak life instead of death? Have others done that for you?



2. Have you ever experienced a broken spirit? What types of things can cause a broken spirit? If you feel comfortable share with your group.

3. There are some people who talk too much. What are some advantages of holding one's peace? Are you guilty of this? How can you take steps in preventing this?

4. Which verse(s) spoke to you or ministered to a specific need in your life this week? How/Why?

Extra

What verse(s) will you choose to memorize from this week's lesson to strengthen your faith or bring edification to those around you?



Proverbs 20-21 Week 9

Understanding the Text

List 2-3 verses from each chapter that speak to the following topics:

Deceit:

Self-restraint/control:

1. What are the effects of having integrity (or not)?
2. What mistake do people sometimes make regarding their promises or vows? How important should our promises be?
3. In what sense does a lazy man have desires? What consequences does laziness lead to?
4. Are there any other major topics/themes mentioned in these chapters?



Big Picture

1. What is the difference between avoiding strife and bringing necessary confrontation? See James 5:20.
2. What is the difference between pursuing pleasure and riches and enjoying pleasure and riches? Is it unbiblical to pursue happiness? What brings “fullness of joy” according to John 15:10-11?
3. How is being a sluggard (in 20:4, 13, 25-26) antithetical to the Christian life? Is your view of work related to the Curse or an injunction of God?

Gospel Grace

1. In what sense is a man’s spirit the lamp of the Lord? How does the ability of God to know our hearts compare to our ability to know the hearts of others?
2. Proverbs 20:9 is a rhetorical question. How does it help to remember that the Spirit alone can purify our hearts? See John 15:5.



3. Is Proverbs 21:16 part of the law (Old Covenant) or the New Covenant? Define “way of good sense.”

Application

1. There is much freedom in the Christian life to live as we please- a vain life. It is easy to say, “I want it and can afford it, therefore, I’m buying it.” How does 1 Corinthians 10:23 speak to this? How does Mark 8:36 help you to resist the pursuit of pleasure and wealth?
2. How should you confront another believer (Matthew 7:5 and Galatians 6:1-2) and when is it necessary to confront versus overlook (Ephesians 4:1-3)? In this day and age, when tolerance is king, it is easy to avoid the duty of confrontation. Are you ever guilty of avoiding “blows that wound (20:30)” for the sake of an unholy peace (1 Corinthians 1:5)?
3. Are there areas in your life in which you are lazy? Do you ever think you “deserve rest or relaxation” as a reward for your hard work? Is that a bad thing? What is the difference between a need of sleep and a love of sleep (20:13)? How can you know when you have breached a line?
4. Which verse(s) spoke to you or ministered to a specific need in your life this week? How/Why?

**Extra**

What verse(s) will you choose to memorize from this week's lesson to strengthen your faith or bring edification to those around you?



Proverbs 22-24
Week 10

Understanding the Text

List 2-3 verses from each chapter that speak to the following topics:

Reputation/Social Dealings:

Raising Children:

Work Ethic:

1. What instructions do these Proverbs give as to how we should treat the poor?
2. According to these Proverbs, we need to be wise when considering with whom we associate. What types of people should we avoid?
3. What is the eventual result of those who lead a life characterized by laziness? What about those who apply themselves to their skills and work hard?



4. Are there any other major topics/themes mentioned in these chapters? Note 2-3 below, including references.

Big Picture

1. All of the Proverbs in these chapters relating to raising children come with a result/promise. Knowing what we do about the style of the Proverbs (they are proverbial, not formulaic), how would you counsel someone who strove to raise a child in the Lord, but the child is not a believer?
2. What actions do we see the Lord taking in these Proverbs? What do you learn about His character?

Gospel Grace

1. What is the historical context of the “Redeemer”? See Leviticus 25:25, Numbers 35:12, Ruth 3-4. Who is the Redeemer Proverbs 23:11 is pointing forward to? See Jeremiah 50:34, Job 19:25.
2. What blessings and gifts does God give those who fear Him? See Luke 1:46-55, Psalm 147:11, Psalm 128: 1-4.



Application

1. One of the topics mentioned in these Proverbs is of the value of a good name. What reputation do you have? In the home? In the workplace? In the church? In your neighborhood? Are there any steps you need to take to make changes?
2. If you are a parent, how does your current parenting measure up to the commands given in these chapters? Is there anything you need to change about how you are raising your children? If you wish to be a parent someday, what pieces of wisdom can you take away from these chapters?
3. Is there anything you're fearing in this life that is hindering you from walking in wisdom?
4. Which verse(s) spoke to you or ministered to a specific need in your life this week?
How/Why?

Extra

What verse(s) will you choose to memorize from this week's lesson to strengthen your faith or bring edification to those around you?



Proverbs 25-26 Week 11

Understanding the Text

1. Chapter 25 marks the beginning of the last section of Proverbs. According to verse 1, who does scripture say compiled and added these final chapters to the book of Proverbs? Who is the author?

2. What is the glory of God in verse 2? What do you find interesting about this? In contrast, what is the glory of kings?

3. Looking at verses 11 through 14, what sayings govern the common man? How would you sum up these sayings?

4. How should you resolve conflict according to verses 21 and 22?

5. In Proverbs 25, what few verses speak about self-control, moderation and restraint?

6. The fools' ways are highlighted in verses 3 through 12, how do fools despise wisdom as they seek their own way? Remember Proverbs 1:7, where does our true wisdom lie?



7. How does the mouth stir up strife in verses 18-28? What final warnings do you see here?

Big Picture

1. Despite the fact that God says there are many things that are unsearchable of Himself, and it is His glory to conceal things, both earthly kings and man should consider what is revealed by God about God in order to know God and bring Him glory. What passages in the Old Testament or New Testament affirm this truth? Hint: Moses & Paul for example.
2. How is the Parable of the Great Banquet (Luke 14: 7-11) illustrated in Proverbs 25:6-7?
3. What New Testament verses speak to loving your neighbor as described in Proverbs 25? Hint: 1 Corinthians 10:24, can you find others?

Gospel Grace

1. Jesus, was the opposite of the fool and sluggard described in chapters 25 & 26. The fool and sluggard's ways condemn each and every one of us if not in word and deed, then in our thoughts. What specifically about Jesus' character causes your heart and mind to rejoice when you meditate on Him being the source of truth and wisdom ?



2. Read and reflect of 1 Corinthians 1:16-31. Share with your group about the correlation between the gospel and the wisdom of God. Looking at verse 29, why does God manifest His gospel in this manner?

Application

1. What benefits do you see in seeking God's glory versus your own? How can you practically live for God's glory this week versus yourself? Can you share any of the fruit of your attitudes or actions?
2. After reading these two chapters, how are you stirred up out of your lazy attitudes or foolish behavior or thoughts? If necessary, spend some time in confession and repentance. Seek accountability with someone else, praying God's word can bring more fruit in your life.
3. Which verse(s) spoke to you or ministered to a specific need in your life this week? How/Why?

Extra

What verse(s) will you choose to memorize from this week's lesson to strengthen your faith or bring edification to those around you?



Proverbs 27-29 Week 12

Understanding the Text

Read Chapter 27 and answer the following questions:

1. List the warnings Solomon's proverbs give of boasting in verses 1-2.

2. In verse 11, what is the reason for his son to be wise in this proverb of Solomon?

*Read Chapter 28 and 29 What do these chapters say about
The Righteous*

The wicked?

3. Sandwiched between verses 15 and 17 regarding a child or son sits verse 16. How can you view the three together as parenting instruction and encouragement?
4. Are there any other major topics/themes in these chapters? Share them with your group.



Big Picture

1. Proverbs 7:17 is often quoted and frequently used as a motto for a retreat or discipleship program. How do the following verses in this chapter also promote support of fellow believers – verses 5, 6, and 9? Where else do we see this teaching?

2. What does Proverbs 27:18, 23-27 have to say about work? How is this contrasted with the toil in Proverbs 23:4-5?

3. “The Law” is mentioned five times this week, four times in chapter 28 alone. How is the law referenced this week and to what law(s) are these proverbs referring? At the time of this writing, how was one to ‘keep the law’ and what was it meant to ‘forsake the law’?

Gospel Grace

1. How do you see the gospel message represented in Proverbs 28:13?

2. In Proverbs 28:25-26, trusting in the Lord is contrasted with trusting in yourself. What does it mean to trust in the Lord and walk in wisdom? What promises are made to those who trust in the Lord and walk in wisdom?



Application

1. Reflecting once again on Proverbs 27:17, how are you with your Christian friends – are you sharpening each other or affecting each other the opposite way, or possibly not helping one another in this way at all? How can you make changes to sharpen each other for the glory of God?

2. Proverbs 27:19 along with Matthew 12:34, Matthew 6:21 all talk about the heart of man. Considering these verses, what does your heart reflect about you in your words and in what you treasure? In what way can your words, time and resources be better used for God's kingdom?

3. Review your thoughts on Righteous vs Wicked in Understanding the Text and meditate on what it means to be righteous. How are you growing in righteousness and taking purposeful steps to eliminate wickedness from your daily life?

4. Which verse(s) spoke to you or ministered to a specific need in your life this week?
How/Why?

Extra

What verse(s) will you choose to memorize from this week's lesson to strengthen your faith or bring edification to those around you?



Proverbs 30-31 Week 13

Understanding the Text

1. Who wrote Proverbs 30? What was his title and how would you characterize his attitude in verses 1-4? Is this what you would expect with someone of his stature in society?
2. What specifically is said of God's Word in verses 5 and 6? What rebuke does Agur mention from God?
3. In four to five words, sum up Agur's prayer from verses 7-9.
4. Who does the text say wrote this last book of Proverbs 31? Where does this King receive this wisdom from?
5. What tone is taken with the King by his mother in verse 2?
6. What exhortation from verses 3-7 can you extract from her words of wisdom?



7. What is the second exhortation given to the King in verses 8-9?

Big Picture

1. What does Job say of himself before a holy God in Job 25:6, or David in Psalm 73:22? How do you see yourself before a holy God?
2. Some commentators suggest King Lemuel is Solomon, as it means 'devoted to God'. If this is true who would his mother be? Who has taught him through these wise words? Share your thoughts about this family connection in light of biblical history and God's character and love for his children.

Gospel Grace

1. From Proverbs 31: 10-31, list two or three characteristics of the excellent wife which point to the excellence and beauty of His gospel. (For example: Verse 10: The wife's excellence is worth far more than jewels. As children of God, we believe, the gospel is the pearl of greatest treasure. It is a joy to share its truth & treasure with others! Only the gospel can save souls from eternal damnation and separation from God.)
2. The church is the bride of Christ as depicted in Revelation 21:9: it is a picture of God's intimacy with his people. What characteristics of the excellent wife are also true of the bride of Christ and how do you see these manifested in your local church?



3. What does scripture say to those who add or desire to change the gospel and the word of God? See Deuteronomy 12:32, Proverbs 30:6, Jude 1:3, and Revelation 22:18. Share with your group what the gospel of Jesus Christ means to you in 30 seconds or less.

Application

1. Proverbs 30:5-6 says God's people can find refuge in the truth of His word. Why does Solomon proclaim this truth and how is it true? In what specific ways are these verses helpful to you? Or could be helpful in a challenging or difficult circumstance? Read Psalms 12:6, 119:40; 1 Corinthians 4:6; Revelation 22:18-19 to stir your thinking.
2. If you're a woman, read Proverbs 31:10-31 and the other proverbs that describe a wise and desirable wife. In which aspects of character would you like the Holy Spirit to help you grow wiser?
3. If you are a man, what aspects of wisdom that you've studied so far do you think are especially relevant for your home? Share with your group.
4. Which verse(s) spoke to you or ministered to a specific need in your life this week? How/Why?



Extra

What verse(s) will you choose to memorize from this week's lesson to strengthen your faith or bring edification to those around you?

Personal Application

1. Take some time to reflect on our study of Proverbs. Highlight three big take aways.
2. Has anything shocked you or made you seriously rethink your thinking, behavior, or speech?
3. What are your next steps? How will you apply the wisdom that you have gained? What will you do to keep increasing in wisdom?



PROVERBS: GET WISE