Proverbs 14 – 12 November 2026
"The Heart Of The Matter"

Introduction

*The Book of Proverbs is broken into 5 sections
    *Chap 1-9 (Solomon – the only long form)
    *Chap 10-24 (Solomon – short form)
    *Chap 25-29 (Solomon – compiled later by Hez)
    *Chap 30 (Unknown man Agur)
    *Chap 31 (Unknown King Lemuel)
    *Chap 1:1-7, 31:10-31 (Unknown book compiler)

*1st section (Chap 1-9) was entirely about wisdom
*Chap 10 began the verse-by-verse short form help

Today, in chapter 14, much of the discussion is centered around mental & emotional discernment

*We must choose our way thru life in light of God's presence

*No outline today – just listen for the Lord to speak to you one verse at a time
*Ask the Lord which individual verses you need to hold on to

Read 14:1

1. A woman has great capacity to affect her home
2. There may be no place that a woman has a greater opportunity to influence than her family

Read 14:2

1. Our level of reverence for the Lord, our level of wanting to delight the Lord, will determine how straight we're living
2. Do we desire to delight our heavenly Father?

Read 14:3

1. The fool's own pride will be his instrument of correction, but the wise are helped by their words
2. People are naturally repulsed by pride but draw in toward by wisdom

Read 14:4

1. Pursuing progress brings a little mess
2. Progress is messy, expect trouble along the way

Read 14:5-6

1. Faithfulness and knowledge comes to those that pursue it
2. It's the heart of a man that drives his character

Read 14:7-9

1. Remove from fools, they'll only lead you to sin
2. Be among the wise to find favor & blessing

Read 14:10

1. We can never ***fully*** relate to the great ups and downs that another person is going thru
2. It's best just to be present & respond lightly

Read 14:11-12

1. Though the wicked have a nice mansion, it's sure to be struck down, while the small, meager dwelling of the righteous will only grow
2. We can't trust the way of man
    a. Jesus said the way up is down & vis versa
    b. Self-promotion seems right – but its death
    c. Gaining worldly stuff seems right, but its death

Read 14:13

1. Sometimes laughter is just a cover to hide real sorrow
    a. Get to know them so you can tell their state
2. We don't want them to be left with only grief after the joy ends
3. For those that know the Lord, we have this promise from Psm 30:5 though "sorrow may last for the night, joy comes in the mourning"

Read 14:14

1. You ***will*** become the product of what you put your heart into
2. What do you want to be filled with?

Read 14:15-18

1. Simple fools are characterized as rash & quickly moved to emotions
    a. This will naturally lead them to get trouble
2. Prudent people consider their steps carefully
    a. He sees the value of avoiding evil

Read 14:19

1. Good wins
2. There is only one good and that it God!

Read 14:20-21

1. Do we look at the person next to us as one that we can ***get*** from or one that we can ***give*** to?
2. Character of not acting on prejudice is blessed

Read 14:22

1. What plans do you sit down to concoct?
    a. Good giving plans or selfish, wasteful plans

Read 14:23

1. We have the expression, 'All talk & no action'
2. In running your mouth & social media keyboard warriors, there is no profit
    a. You don't need to respond

Read 14:24

1. Wise can only lead toward blessing & goodness
2. Foolishness can only lead toward folly

3. Don't continue doing the same thing & expect a different result

Read 14:25

1. We have the ability to condemn or set free with our testimony – respect that power

Read 14:26-27

1. Living in the fear of the Lord is like abiding under the shadow of God's wings
    a. We're staying in the place of His protection
2. Obeying God isn't prohibition, but a protection

Read 14:28

1. You're not a leader unless people are following
2. A leader's goal isn't to grow an inheritance or grow resources but to grow successful people
3. A leader show read this verse and say, "Lord let me disciple and multiple ***people***

Read 14:29

1. Do you understand the situation? Then you can be calm thru it
2. Temper just brings foolishness into a situation

Read 14:30

1. Discontentment is a disease to the body
2. How can a Christian that has the promise of eternal, incorruptible life to come be discontent?
    a. The only way is if they don't truly believe it

Read 14:31

1. When someone is vulnerable do you seek to take advantage for yourself or to help them?
2. Read Matt Luk 6:34-35

Read 14:32

1. There are results that will naturally flow from our character and heart
2. Let Jesus give you a new heart

Read 14:33

1. You don't always know who is wise b/c they contain it, but the fool's heart is easily seen
2. Fools always have to show you their foolishness

Read 14:34-35

1. From the church house to the white house, we need God in America again
    a. We need people that live like Jesus to change this nation
2. Let's make this King Jesus & let's be wise servants for Him
3. Christians are children of the King, and we've tied our identity to Him
    a. Let us not bring Him shame His name that He gave to us

<u>Conclusion</u>

1. Pause & consider what the Lord is telling you
2. It's God's pleasure to send His Word to us, but it's our duty to respond to it