

Proverbs 15

1. The Power of Speech (vv. 1–4)

- Gentle answers calm conflict; harsh words stir anger (v.1)
- Wise speech reflects knowledge; foolish speech spreads folly (v.2)
- God sees everything, both good and evil (v.3)
- Words can heal or destroy (v.4)

2. Wisdom vs. Foolishness (vv. 5–12)

- Fools reject discipline; the wise accept correction (v.5)
- The righteous are blessed; the wicked face trouble (v.6)
- Wise people spread knowledge; fools do not (v.7)
- God values righteous hearts over empty religious acts (vv. 8–9)
- Discipline is necessary; rejecting it leads to death (v.10)
- God knows the depths of the human heart (v.11)
- Scoffers resist correction and avoid the wise (v.12)

3. The Heart's Condition and Its Effects (vv. 13–17)

- A joyful heart shows in one's face; sorrow crushes the spirit (v.13)
- The wise seek knowledge; fools feed on foolishness (v.14)
- Attitude shapes experience, joyful hearts live continually in "feast" (v.15)
- Better little with fear of the Lord than wealth with trouble (v.16)
- Better love with little than hatred with abundance (v.17)

4. Self-Control and Relationships (vv. 18–22)

- Hot tempers cause conflict; patience brings peace (v.18)
- Laziness leads to hardship; diligence leads to ease (v.19)

- Wise children bring joy; foolish ones bring grief (v.20)
- Folly delights fools; the wise walk uprightly (v.21)
- Plans succeed with wise counsel (v.22)

5. Words, Timing, and Righteous Living (vv. 23–29)

- A well-timed word brings joy (v.23)
- The wise pursue life; fools head toward destruction (v.24)
- God opposes the proud but protects the vulnerable (v.25)
- God values pure thoughts and gracious words (v.26)
- Greed destroys; integrity preserves life (v.27)
- The righteous think before speaking; the wicked speak evil (v.28)
- God hears the prayers of the righteous, not the wicked (v.29)

6. The Value of Instruction and the Fear of the Lord (vv. 30–33)

- Good news and encouragement bring life (v.30)
- Listening to correction leads to wisdom and good company (v.31)
- Rejecting discipline harms oneself; accepting it brings understanding (v.32)
- The fear of the Lord teaches wisdom; humility precedes honor (v.33)

Summary:

- The **tongue** has immense power (to heal or harm)
- **Humility and teachability** lead to wisdom
- **God sees and evaluates the heart**, not just actions
- **Righteous living > outward religion or wealth**
- **Wise counsel and correction** are essential for growth