

HOW TO LIVE WELL

JIM NICODEM | OCTOBER 15 & 16, 2022

PROVERBS 8:1-36

Introduction

Sections 1, 2, & 3

Nature of Proverbs:

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1. _____ Wisdom

2. _____ the Lord

- _____ Evil
- _____ God

3. Follow _____

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

FOR FAMILY, FRIENDS & GROUPS

1. What's the difference between being smart and being wise?
2. With the help of either the Bible Project video or the NIV Study Bible introduction to the book, make some general observations about Proverbs (i.e. who wrote it, how it's arranged, etc.). Why is Christ Community's "Walking in Wisdom" series beginning with Proverbs even though that's the third of five books in the Bible's wisdom literature section?
3. Are proverbs promises or general principles? Explain the difference using Proverbs 10:27 and 22:6 as examples. Why is this distinction important to note?
4. Read I Kings 3:4-12. What did Solomon ask God for--and why? Why do you think God was so pleased (v.10) with Solomon's request?
5. Read Proverbs 8:1-6, 10, 11. Who's speaking in these verses (i.e. her nickname)? Summarize her pitch. What phrases in these verses communicate the passion with which Lady Wisdom urges us to pursue wisdom?
6. According to Andy Stanley, what's "the best question ever"? Why is this question so good? Describe a dilemma or decision you currently face that would benefit from some wisdom.
7. Read II Timothy 3:15-17. Where is wisdom to be found? What will this source do for you?
8. What do the following verses in Proverbs teach about the fear of the LORD: 1:7; 10:27; 14:26, 27; 19:23? How is the fear of the LORD defined in Proverbs 8:13? What do you think is included in the word "hate" in this verse?
9. Read Job 1:1. What does "shunned" mean in this verse? How might you apply Job's example of shunning--practically speaking--to your own life (i.e. give a couple of examples)?
10. Read Proverbs 9:10. Where does the fear of the LORD come from according to the second half of this verse? Why do you think Solomon refers to God as the "Holy One" here? Why is it so important to have a balanced view of God and his attributes (i.e. both kindness and sternness; see Romans 1:22)? What might it look like to revere God--and why would that lead to a life well-lived?
11. Read Proverbs 8:15-17. Circle all the synonyms for the word "leaders" in these verses. What's the result of them leading wisely? What might be some of the benefits of following wise leaders?
12. Read Proverbs 13:20 and I Corinthians 15:33. Summarize the principle taught in these verses and describe how it works. Describe a wise person with whom you regularly hang out. Why is Christ Community a good place to find such people?

PRAYER PROMPT :Using the CHAT Prayer card, set a timer for 2-5 minutes per section and pray through each of the sections (Confession, Ask, etc.). There are prompts in each section to help you get started. The CHAT Prayer Card is available at ccllife.org/discipleshiptools (hard copies also available at your campus).