

Practical Pointers From Proverbs

“23 Keep thy heart with all diligence; for out of it are the issues of life,. 24 Put away from thee a froward mouth, and perverse lips put far from thee. 25 Let thine eyes look right on, and let thine eyelids look straight before thee. 26 Ponder the path of thy feet, and let all thy ways be established. 27 Turn not to the right hand nor to the left: remove thy foot from evil” (Proverbs 4:23-27).

Here’s a good sermon from Solomon, and sound advice for the assembly:

- ♦ **Keep your heart**—No seed can survive the heart that’s full of weeds.
- ♦ **Watch your mouth**—A “froward” mouth is a crooked one. Ever notice how your mouth looks when you say ugly things?
- ♦ **Open your eyes**—Don’t be distracted, and don’t go to sleep. Will the Lord give attention to those who yawn in His presence?
- ♦ **Look where you’re going**—Worship must be directed to the throne. It won’t arrive there accidentally.
- ♦ **Stay on course**—Keep your mind between the ditches of indifference and excessive enthusiasm.

Get wisdom. Bring her with you to worship.

Jason Moore

Notes and reminders:

Let us be praying for our Bible study classes and all efforts to learn more of God’s word.

Also, continue prayers for those on our list, for those in authority, and for the free course of the gospel and obedient hearers.

*“Now this is the confidence that we have in Him, that, if we ask anything according to His will, He hears us.”
1 John 5:14*

Editor: Steve Frazier

Meeting times of the church

Sunday:

09:00 am Bible classes

10:00 am Morning Worship

5:00 pm Evening Worship

Wednesday: 7:00 pm Bible classes

Evangelist: Devin Barber

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Hebrew 10:23—25 “Let us hold fast the confession of our hope without wavering, for He who promised is faithful. And let us consider one another in order to stir up love and good works. Not forsaking the assembling of ourselves together as is the manner of some.” But, exhorting one another, and so much the more as you see the Day approaching.”

Marietta church of Christ
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Postage

Glad Tidings

Romans 10:15

January 2, 2022

“Giving God Our Best”



True honor is never cheap. If it’s legitimate honor, it’s never accorded without a price. “*I will not give that which costs me nothing,*” said David (2 Sam. 24:24). Few things are more precious than true honor.

The Lord will not take second place, nor should He. He is God, the Almighty, the Creator, the Sustainer of life, the Giver of all there is. We should honor Him in the highest way we can—with “the first fruits,” not the leftovers. The highest honor we can bestow on Him is to give Him the best of all that we have—our substance, our talent, our time, our energy.

Nor should we be displeased with the Lord’s chastisements. To receive them

“Oh, give thanks to the Lord! Call upon His name; Make known His deeds among the peoples. Sing to Him, sing psalms to Him; Talk of all His wondrous works. Glory in His holy name; Let the hearts of those rejoice who seek the Lord. Seek the Lord and His strength; Seek His face evermore.”
Psalms 105:1-4

appreciatively and with confident resignation is a sure sign of honor. Did our parents not chasten us, and for our good? Correction is a part of love, a vital part. The chastening of the Lord is a sure sign of His interest and concern for us, of His desire to make us into all we have the potential to be. This can't be done without some advice, some instruction, even some rebuke. We honor Him when we accept it willingly.

Let us honor God in our lives today. Let us begin by giving Him first place and let us not despise His chastening's when they come, knowing they are for our good.

Dee Bowman



It sometimes begins innocently, even accidentally. There is a theory that the great Chicago fire of 1871 started when a cow kicked over a lantern. *“Behold how great a forest is set aflame by such a small fire”* (vs. 5) All it takes is one

careless match, one slip of the tongue, and a whole community of people can be brought down.

It spreads rapidly. It doesn't take long for a flickering flame to become a raging inferno. And gossip catches on even quicker. You may not be able to control what other people are spreading around, but you can be the one who keeps it from going any further. The righteous do not *“take up a reproach against a friend”* (Psalm 15:3). It's one thing to not pass it on; it's quite another to not even listen to it.

It is difficult to extinguish. It starts easily, but have you ever tried to put one out? You might be able to correct the matter with the people you told. But how will you ever track down the people they told, and they the people they told...

Its damage is usually irreversible. It's impossible to put back together a home destroyed by fire. What about taking back the words you used to burn someone else? You can apologize, but your mouth has already spoken that which fills your heart.

The tongue is “the very world of iniquity” (vs. 6). That's putting it mildly.

Bubba Garner

The Twelve Apostles

Consider the twelve men Jesus chose.

Lk. 6:12-19

Simon—impetuous, impulsive, impertinent Peter. *There is room in the kingdom for the extrovert.*

Andrew—went back to bring his brother Peter. *There is room for the second fiddle.*

James & John—cousins of Jesus who sought chief seats. *There is room for the overly ambitious.*

Philip—made the simple reply to doubting Nathaniel, *“Come and see.”* *There is room for simple men.*

Bartholomew—likely the Nathaniel whom Philip brought. *There is room for the honest skeptic.*

Matthew—a publican, an office despised by his countrymen. *There is room for the outcast.*

Thomas—the doubter. *There is room for those with imperfect faith.*

James—called “the less” likely because of his youth. *There is room for the young.*

Simon—member of a militant Jewish nationalist sect. *There is room for the misguided.*

Judas—called Thaddeus, of whom the gospels record only his naïve question. *There is room for the ignorant.*

Judas—the betrayer. *There is room even for the betrayer, except the unrepentant one.*

All these men were under construction at the time Jesus called them. There is room in the kingdom for men like them who are willing to become what the Lord can make of them.

Jason Moore