

word **TO THE** wise

A S E R I E S I N P R O V E R B S

Sunday, May 30, 2021 | Wawasee Community Bible Church | Milford, Indiana | Pastor Josh Weiland

Part 1 | **The Beginning of Wisdom**

Proverbs 1:1-7

¹ The proverbs of Solomon, son of David, king of Israel:

² To know wisdom and instruction, to understand words of insight,

³ to receive instruction in wise dealing, in righteousness, justice, and equity;

⁴ to give prudence to the simple, knowledge and discretion to the youth—

⁵ Let the wise hear and increase in learning,

and the one who understands obtain guidance,

⁶ to understand a proverb and a saying, the words of the wise and their riddles.

⁷ The fear of the Lord is the beginning of knowledge;

fools despise wisdom and instruction.

Wisdom **BEGINS**

The Who, What, & Why of Proverbs

WHO?

SOLOMON

1 Kings 3

To the young, the simple, and the wise...

WHAT?

Proverbs are **SHORT, PITHY** statements that teach practical wisdom about life.

Proverbs express what is generally/normally true. *There may be exceptions.*

Proverbs are **NOT** promises.

WHY?

To impart **KNOWLEDGE** (wisdom) 1:1-6

with a **RIGHT RELATIONSHIP** with/to God

the fear of the Lord 1:7; Hebrews 5:7; Psalm 34:11; 33:8-9

humility v. “wise in your own eyes” Proverbs 3:5-8

which is only possible **THROUGH JESUS.**

Jesus is wisdom 1 Corinthians 1:24 (and all of 1:18-31)

given by grace James 1:5; 1 Corinthians 15:1-10



Grow.

Food for Thought...

Questions & Scripture for Further Study

This summer we're in a series called "Word to the Wise". We'll be studying parts of the book of Proverbs and seeking the wisdom it offers. Have you every wanted wisdom? James tells us it's a good thing and we should ask for it (**James 1:5**), but there's also some effort to be put in on our end. Scripture makes it clear we don't get wisdom on accident but by searching for it like a hidden treasure (**Proverbs 2:1-22**).

This summer let's make an effort to read from Proverbs every day.

Since Proverbs has 31 chapters, a practical way to do this is to daily read the chapter that corresponds to the day of the month and consider these questions:

1. **What applies to me today?** (*And how can I do it—in thought, attitude, word, or deed?*)
2. **Where have I seen this in others?**
3. **Where have I experienced this?**

Ideas to Maximize Your Reading of Proverbs:

Pick a Time: If we want to make something happen, we usually need to set a time when it will actually happen. Consider your options.

Mark it Up: Have a pen in hand to jot down notes and underline those verses that catch your attention. It will be encouraging to look back at what you wrote after you've done this over time.

Write Down Your Thoughts: Get a notebook and write down anytime you have a response to one of the three questions above.

Use an App: Below are sites/apps that have Proverbs reading plans for your smartphone, tablet or computer. There is even an audio option for listening instead of reading. Each app allows you to mark up verses, jot down notes, as well as share your thoughts with friends.

Gateway Bible Proverb Reading Plan

<https://www.biblegateway.com/reading-plans/proverbs-monthly/today?version=NIV>

YouVersion Bible Proverb Reading Plan (*Free in AppStore*)

<https://www.bible.com/reading-plans/149-proverbs>

Faithlife Study Bible (*Free in AppStore*)

<https://support.faithlife.com/hc/en-us/articles/360032481712-Reading-Plans>

Ease Up: If you miss a day reading, don't stress and say, "Forget about it..." and give up! Just pick it up the next day and keep going!

* This week's Food for Thought is adapted from a discussion guide by North Coast Church in Vista, CA and "God's Wisdom for Navigating Life: A Year of Daily Devotions in the Book of Proverbs" by Tim Keller. North Coast is a sister church of Wawasee Bible, part of the EFCA.

Life Groups Return in the Fall!

Each fall and spring people from Wawasee Bible meet regularly in small groups to learn about Jesus, pray, eat, laugh, and live life together. We call them Life Groups and they meet in various homes and on campus. If you really want to connect and grow, you need to get in a Life Group! If you're interested, look for sign-ups in August or let us know on the Connect Card in your bulletin. **Look for other opportunities to connect outside of Life Groups over the summer.**





APRIL/MAY/JUNE CHALLENGE:

Gather, Grow, Go!

We want to see every person who calls Wawasee home do 3 things:

1. **Gather** regularly on Sunday mornings. (Hebrews 10:25).
2. **Grow** by getting connected in a growth ministry like a Life Group, Forge, Women's Bible Study, etc. Don't just show up, *grow up!* (1 Corinthians 3:1-3; Heb. 5:12)
3. **Go** serve somewhere! Wawasee Bible will *never* feel like family to you until you're linking arms and serving somewhere. **Where are you serving?** More than ever, we need people willing to serve. (1 Peter 4:10-11)

How are you doing at these three things? Do you need to **Gather** and show up more regularly? Do you need to **Grow** up and get connected in a Life Group? Do you need to **Go** and get off the sidelines and into the game so that you can contribute rather than just consume?

This spring your challenge is to take some tangible steps to *Gather, Grow, & Go!*

Word Find for Proverbs 1:1-7 (ESV)

Find the words **bolded** below.

1 The **proverbs** of Solomon, son of David, king of Israel: 2 To **know wisdom** and **instruction**, to **understand** words of **insight**, 3 to **receive instruction** in **wise dealing**, in **righteousness**, **justice**, and **equity**; 4 to **give prudence** to the **simple**, **knowledge** and **discretion** to the youth— 5 Let the **wise** **hear** and **increase** in **learning**, and the one who **understands** **obtain guidance**, 6 to **understand** a **proverb** and a **saying**, the words of the **wise** and their **riddles**. 7 The **fear** of the **LORD** is the **beginning** of **knowledge**; **fools** **despise wisdom** and **instruction**.

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