STUDY

Proverbs Bible Study Questions and Answers (Free PDF)

A 10-session walk through Proverbs, from the fear of the Lord to the woman of Proverbs 31, with open questions for your own answers. Free to print, no sign-up.

A 10-session study of Proverbs for groups or solo reading.

> *The fear of the LORD is the beginning of knowledge, but fools despise wisdom and instruction.*
>
> **Proverbs 1:7 (NIV)**

> *Trust in the LORD with all your heart and lean not on your own understanding; in all your ways submit to him, and he will make your paths straight.*
>
> **Proverbs 3:5-6 (NIV)**

> *Above all else, guard your heart, for everything you do flows from it.*
>
> **Proverbs 4:23 (NIV)**

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The study guide

SESSION 1 · PROVERBS 1:1-33

The Beginning of Wisdom

Solomon sets out the purpose of the book, and a father urges his son to listen. Wisdom cries out in the street, and those who refuse her call are warned.

1. What is the purpose of Proverbs according to Proverbs 1:2-6, and what does Proverbs 1:7 say is the beginning of knowledge?

2. What does it mean to fear the Lord, and why would that come before all other learning?

3. Where are you tempted to lean on your own cleverness, and what would it look like to listen instead?

SESSION 2 · PROVERBS 2:1-3:35

Treasure and Trust

The father urges his son to seek wisdom like hidden treasure. He calls him to trust the Lord with all his heart and to honor God with what he has.

1. What does Proverbs 2:1-6 tell the son to do, and where does it say wisdom comes from?

2. What does Proverbs 3:5-6 ask of us, and how is trusting the Lord different from simply being careful?

3. What is one area of your life where it is hardest to stop leaning on your own understanding?

SESSION 3 · PROVERBS 4:1-5:23

Guard Your Heart

A father passes on what his own father taught him, that wisdom is supreme. He urges his son to guard his heart and to stay faithful to the wife of his youth.

1. What does the father say about getting wisdom in Proverbs 4:7, and what does he command in Proverbs 4:23?

2. Why does the heart come first in Proverbs 4:23, and how does Proverbs 4:25-27 show what guarding it looks like?

3. What are you letting into your heart through your eyes and ears, and what might need to change?

SESSION 4 · PROVERBS 6:1-7:27

Warnings and Wisdom's Cost

The father warns against surety for another's debt, laziness, and a list of things the Lord hates. He urges his son to flee adultery, which promises pleasure and ends in ruin.

1. What does Proverbs 6:6-8 tell the sluggard to learn from the ant, and what seven things does the Lord hate in Proverbs 6:16-19?

2. Why does Proverbs 7 describe the path of the adulterous woman as leading toward death, and what makes the young man so easy to lead?

3. Where is a small compromise pulling at you, and who can you trust to help you stay on the right road?

SESSION 5 · PROVERBS 8:1-9:18

Wisdom and Folly Call

Wisdom speaks in her own voice, present with God before creation began. Then wisdom and folly each set a table and call out to the simple.

1. What does Wisdom say about herself in Proverbs 8:11 and Proverbs 8:22-31?

2. How do the invitations of Wisdom (Proverbs 9:1-6) and Folly (Proverbs 9:13-18) sound alike, and how do they differ in what they lead to?

3. What invitation are you answering right now, and where is it leading?

SESSION 6 · PROVERBS 12:18; 15:1-4; 18:21; 10:19

Words and the Tongue

Proverbs treats our words as weighty things that heal or wound, and it returns to the tongue again and again. This session gathers those sayings.

1. What does Proverbs 12:18 say about reckless words and wise ones, and what does Proverbs 15:1 say about a gentle answer?

2. What does Proverbs 18:21 mean when it says the tongue has the power of life and death?

3. Whose words have you carried a long time, and whose life could you speak into this week?

SESSION 7 · PROVERBS 10:4; 13:11; 11:24-28; 22:7; 30:7-9

Work, Laziness, and Money

Proverbs honors diligent work and warns against laziness. It speaks just as plainly about money, generosity, and the danger of both poverty and wealth.

1. What does Proverbs 10:4 say about lazy hands and diligent hands, and what does Proverbs 30:8-9 ask of God?

2. Why does Proverbs 11:24-28 speak of generosity and trusting in riches so differently, and what do they show about the heart?

3. How do you handle work and money, and where do fear or greed shape your choices?

SESSION 8 · PROVERBS 17:17; 27:17; 13:20; 15:18; 16:32; 29:11

Friendship and Anger

Proverbs values true friends and warns about the company we keep. It also teaches patience and warns against a hot temper.

1. What do Proverbs 17:17 and Proverbs 27:17 say about a friend, and what does Proverbs 13:20 say about the company we keep?

2. What do Proverbs 15:18 and Proverbs 16:32 say about a quick temper and a patient spirit?

3. Who sharpens you, and where does your anger need to be handed to God?

SESSION 9 · PROVERBS 16:18-19; 11:2; 18:12; 3:34

Pride and Humility

Proverbs names pride as a road to ruin and humility as the road to honor. This session gathers what the book says on both.

1. What does Proverbs 16:18 say about pride, and how does Proverbs 11:2 put pride and humility side by side?

2. Why does Proverbs 18:12 say humility comes before honor, and what does it say about how God sees the humble?

3. Where has pride kept you from asking for help or admitting you were wrong?

SESSION 10 · PROVERBS 31:1-31

The Woman of Proverbs 31

King Lemuel's mother teaches her son, and the book closes with a poem about a woman of noble character. It draws together the wisdom of the whole book.

1. What does King Lemuel's mother tell him in Proverbs 31:1-9, and what qualities mark the woman in Proverbs 31:10-31?

2. Why does Proverbs 31:30 say charm and beauty are not what matter, and how does that tie the poem back to Proverbs 1:7?

3. How can you grow in the wisdom this chapter praises, whether or not you are married or a parent?