



KING'S CHAPEL

Daily Devotional - Proverbs Study

Week 1 - Day 1

Approaching God

Read Psalm 34:10 - *"The young lions suffer want and hunger, but those who seek the Lord lack no good thing."*

Prayer: Take a minute to quiet your heart and become aware of the Lord's presence. Ask God to help you seek him this morning and as you begin a daily reading in the book of Proverbs. Father, I wait upon you for the wholeness of life you promise in Jesus. And I pray in his name - Amen.

Bible Reading, Study & Meditation - Proverbs 1:1-7

Passage Introduction: A proverb (Hebrew - "*masal*") is a poetic, terse, vivid, thought-provoking saying that conveys a world of truth in a few words. Modern people do not have a category for proverbs. They are neither absolute commands nor promises, and often they are partial. That is, they need to be put beside other proverbs on the same subject to get the full picture. They are observations about how life works. The point of a proverb, then, is to get rightly related to reality through hard thinking and sustained reflection. A proverb is like hard candy: If you just bite down on it, you get little out of it and may even get a broken tooth. Instead you must meditate on it until the sweetness of insight comes.

Proverbs 1:1-7 - ESV

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.

Start with Engaging the Text: Take a few minutes to highlight, circle, or underline key words. What words or ideas are repeated, related, compared, contrasted? What key themes stand out to you?

Daily Study Questions

Wisdom is not only for “deep thinkers.” It is how you get through daily life. It helps you know what to do when your child comes home from school with a black eye, or when you suddenly come into unexpected money, or when you lose your job. What do you do that won’t make things worse? Our wisdom will guide us as we grow in the knowledge and image of his Son, Jesus, who is Wisdom itself.

- What 1 or 2 principles do you observe in this section?
- In what area of life do you most need to grow in wisdom?
- When in your life or the life of someone else have you seen this observation illustrated?
- How can you put this observation or principle into practice?
- Lastly, try to summarize your thoughts by rewriting your main ideas and observations into your own words in a sentence or two.

Close in Prayer:

Lord, I’d prefer if you would simply tell me what to do through some inner voice or some book of specific rules for every situation. Instead I hear you calling me to grow into a wise person who discerns what to do. Help me to answer that call, and give me understanding. Amen.