



KING'S CHAPEL

Daily Devotional - Proverbs Study

Week 2 - Day 2

Approaching God

Read Psalm 94:12 - *Happy are those whom you discipline O LORD, and whom you teach out of your law.*

Prayer: If God did not love us, he would simply punish us; if he were indifferent toward us, he would ignore us. But God loves you. Take a moment to ask that your heart would be open to all of God's words today, that you would be open to receive his corrective training and gentle discipline that characterizes the father who truly loves his children.

Bible Reading, Study & Meditation - Proverbs 3:21-35

Passage Introduction: A Father's Appeal #4 - Now the Father explains the point of Proverbs chapter 3—how we treat one another. God's wisdom creates relationships of responsible generosity (vv. 27–28), trusting safety (vv. 29–30), and careful discernment (vv. 31–32). The Lord is active among his people, with both blessing and discipline. James 4:6 and 1 Peter 5:5 draw upon verse 34 as a practical application of the gospel. Humility started in heaven and came down to us in Jesus (Phil. 2:5–8). The humble find favor with the Lord, not because they demand it by their merits but because he gives it to those who are open.

Proverbs 3:21-35 - ESV

21 My son, do not lose sight of these-- keep sound wisdom and discretion, **22** and they will be life for your soul and adornment for your neck. **23** Then you will walk on your way securely, and your foot will not stumble. **24** If you lie down, you will not be afraid; when you lie down, your sleep will be sweet. **25** Do not be afraid of sudden terror or of the ruin of the wicked, when it comes, **26** for the LORD will be your confidence and will keep your foot from being caught. **27** Do not withhold good from those to whom it is due, when it is in your power to do it. **28** Do not say to your neighbor, "Go, and come again, tomorrow I will give it"--when you have it with you. **29** Do not plan evil against your neighbor, who dwells trustingly beside you. **30** Do not contend with a man for no reason, when he has done you no harm. **31** Do not envy a man of violence and do not choose any of his ways, **32** for the devious person is an abomination to the LORD, but the upright are in his confidence. **33** The LORD's curse is on the house of the wicked, but he blesses the dwelling of the righteous. **34** Toward the scorners he is scornful, but to the humble he gives favor. **35** The wise will inherit honor, but fools get disgrace.

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

The sixth mark and means of wisdom in Proverbs chapter 3 is a concern for justice. The good that we must give to our neighbor means practical aid for an economic or physical need. It is striking that the text adds that this is not simply a matter of charity but is your neighbor's due. To not care for them when they are in need is not merely a lack of charity; it is injustice. Put bluntly: If you have things your neighbor doesn't have, share them, because he or she has a right to the part of the world over which God has made you a temporary steward.

- One thing we learn from Proverbs 3 is that if you are involved with your needy neighbors, it will teach you wisdom. Are you?
- What 1 or 2 principles do you observe in this section?
- 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:

Father, I live in the most competitive society ever, and so I get fixated on what people "merit of themselves." Let me remember that every human being, even the most flawed and broken, is of infinite value to you. Let me go beyond the platitudes to truly love my neighbors with my worldly goods. Amen.