



# KING'S CHAPEL

## Daily Devotional - Proverbs Study

Week 4 - Day 1

### Approaching God

**Psalm 91:1-2** - *Whoever dwells in the shelter of the Most High will rest in the shadow of the Almighty. I will say of the LORD, "He is my refuge and my fortress, my God, in whom I trust."*

**Prayer:** Psalm 91 begins with a two metaphors of protection, the first is that of a fortress with impregnable strength. Spears and arrows don't make a dent. Start this morning by praising God for his strong and fierce protection of his children, even in the midst of great uncertainty.

### Bible Reading, Study & Meditation - Proverbs 9:1-18

#### Passage Introduction: Lady Wisdom & Lady Folly

The woman Wisdom calls us to find the way to her house where there is a feast waiting. Great food represents the desires and appetites of our hearts. Over time, we grow in wisdom or folly according to the ultimate loves and commitments that move us. We can't overcome workaholicism if we love money and status too much. We can't overcome bitterness or slander if we love our reputation too much. It is not just willpower but a reordering of our desires that will bring wisdom.

#### Proverbs 9:1-18 - NIV

**1** Wisdom has built her house; she has set up its seven pillars. **2** She has prepared her meat and mixed her wine; she has also set her table. **3** She has sent out her servants, and she calls from the highest point of the city, **4** "Let all who are simple come to my house!" To those who have no sense she says, **5** "Come, eat my food and drink the wine I have mixed. **6** Leave your simple ways and you will live; walk in the way of insight." **7** Whoever corrects a mocker invites insults; whoever rebukes the wicked incurs abuse. **8** Do not rebuke mockers or they will hate you; rebuke the wise and they will love you. **9** Instruct the wise and they will be wiser still; teach the righteous and they will add to their learning. **10** The fear of the LORD is the beginning of wisdom, and knowledge of the Holy One is understanding. **11** For through wisdom your days will be many, and years will be added to your life. **12** If you are wise, your wisdom will reward you; if you are a mocker, you alone will suffer. **13** Folly is an unruly woman; she is simple and knows nothing. **14** She sits at the door of her house, on a seat at the highest point of the city, **15** calling out to those who pass by, who go straight on their way, **16** "Let all who are simple come to my house!" To those who have no sense she says, **17** "Stolen water is sweet; food eaten in secret is delicious!" **18** But little do they know that the dead are there, that her guests are deep in the realm of the dead.

**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 way of wisdom is not the way of quick fixes and dramatic turnarounds. It is the way of long training and discipline. But train the heart, not just the mind and will. Don't just believe in the goodness of God—savor it in worship and prayer. Christians know that the ultimate feast for the soul will be the wedding supper of the Lamb (Revelation 19:6–9), where Jesus, the Lord of the feast, will satisfy us fully, giving us the “best wine” of his saving love (John 2:1–11). Even the foretastes that we get now will heal our restlessness and so make us wise. “The hill of Zion yields a thousand sacred sweets [even] before we reach the heavenly fields and walk the golden streets.” (Isaac Watts hymn - The Hill of Zion)

- Does your prayer life include much praise and savoring of Jesus, or is it mainly a time of asking for things?
- 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?

**Close in Prayer:** Father, I have made many wrong decisions. As I look back on them, I now realize they were less a lack of know-how and more the result of an empty heart. Pour out your love into my heart by the Holy Spirit (Romans 5:5). Amen.

