

Wisdom Knocking... Anyone Home? June 11-14, 2026

WHY LEARNING COMMUNITIES? **Circle Two Opportunity...**

To become better and better disciples of Christ TOGETHER so we can face **anything** through...

1. Deeper learning of Biblical truth and
2. Stronger “iron sharpening iron” relationships

Ephesians 4:12–16 (ESV)

Week of Thurs. 6/4 - Wed. 6/10, Days 155-161. Bible Recap: pages 822-892, Prov 4-24, circa: 950 B.C.

Wisdom: applying God’s truth to life so we see and live God’s way (PH)

"Knowledge is having the facts. Understanding is the ability to discern what the facts mean and how they fit together in the big picture. Wisdom is knowing how to apply your knowledge and understanding, translating it into the everyday life of a Christ follower." *The Bible Recap, page 858.*

From last Sunday’s sermon: “Wisdom Knocks... is Anyone Home?”

1. God is proactively attentive – INVITATION to guide us in all of life, thru radical awe of and submission to God.
2. We must relentlessly pursue wisdom – MOTIVATION is to believe wisdom is of highest value and pursue it
3. We must ceaselessly live wisdom – ACTIVATION by changing from living by our own understanding to trusting in the Lord with all we’ve got in all our ways.

Top 10 Key Themes in the Book of Proverbs, https://biblehub.com/top10/key_themes_in_the_book_of_proverbs.htm

1. The Fear of the LORD

Proverbs 1:7 (ESV) ⁷The fear of the Lord is the beginning of knowledge; fools despise wisdom and instruction.

This foundational attitude helps keep our hearts in check, putting us on the right track for wise decisions. When we start by honoring the Creator, every other pursuit—whether planning for the future or seeking success—finds its rightful place.

2. Wisdom vs. Folly

Proverbs 12:15 (ESV) ¹⁵The way of a fool is right in his own eyes, but a wise man listens to advice.

Many contrasts between wise (follow instructions) and foolish (reject or neglect guidance).

3. The Power of Words

Proverbs 15:1 (ESV) ¹A soft answer turns away wrath, but a harsh word stirs up anger.

Proverbs offers vibrant illustrations on how words can heal or harm, how to respond to insult or encourage others.

4. Hard Work and Diligence

Proverbs 12:24 (ESV) ²⁴The hand of the diligent will rule, while the slothful will be put to forced labor.

Success hinges on a tenacious work ethic & willingness to press on... consistent, focused work outperforms quick fixes every time.

5. Integrity and Honesty

Proverbs 28:6 (ESV) ⁶Better is a poor man who walks in his integrity than a rich man who is crooked in his ways.

Recurring call to live with honesty and moral courage, to measure life by faithfulness to God and His ways rather than personal gain.

6. The Blessings of Generosity

Proverbs 19:17 (ESV) ¹⁷Whoever is generous to the poor lends to the Lord, and he will repay him for his deed.

Generosity in Proverbs is about having a giving heart, an open-handed way of living that produces joy for the giver and relief for the receiver. Ultimately, it points us to the kindness and faithfulness of God.

7. Humility and Humble Attitudes

Proverbs 16:18 (ESV) ¹⁸Pride goes before destruction, and a haughty spirit before a fall.

Humility is a secret weapon for success. Pride blocks progress, but a humble spirit opens doors to growth. "

8. Wise Friendships and Associations

Proverbs 13:20 (ESV) ²⁰Whoever walks with the wise becomes wise, but the companion of fools will suffer harm.

We become like those we spend time with, and Proverbs constantly reminds us. Aligning ourselves with people who pursue truth and stellar character helps us flourish in every area of life.

9. Self-Control and Patience

Proverbs 16:32 Whoever is slow to anger is better than the mighty, and he who rules his spirit than he who takes a city.

Life’s biggest mishaps often happen when we lose our cool. We must control our impulses. Here, the real heroes are the ones who can keep calm and do the next right thing rather than charging ahead blindly.

10. Trusting God in All Things

Proverbs 3:5 (ESV) ⁵Trust in the Lord with all your heart, and do not lean on your own understanding.

Above all, Proverbs invites us to place our ultimate confidence in God’s loving plan. His guidance must be our compass, which ensures that every twist and turn in life has greater meaning and purpose. By depending on Him, we gain the truest wisdom of all.

What verses in Proverbs 4-24 stuck out to you this week and why?

This week's chapters

Prov. 4 A Father's Wise Instruction - *a high percentage is about sexual sin and the remedy- WHY?*

Prov. 5 Warning Against Adultery

Prov 4:23–27 ²³Keep your heart with all vigilance, for from it flow the springs of life. ²⁴Put away from you crooked speech, and put devious talk far from you. ²⁵Let your eyes look directly forward, and your gaze be straight before you. ²⁶Ponder the path of your feet; then all your ways will be sure. ²⁷Do not swerve to the right or to the left; turn your foot away from evil.

Prov. 6 Practical Warnings, Warnings Against Adultery

Prov. 7 Warnings Against Adultery

Prov. 8 The Blessings of Wisdom

Proverbs 8:10–11 (ESV) ¹⁰Take my instruction instead of silver, and knowledge rather than choice gold, ¹¹for wisdom is better than jewels, and all that you may desire cannot compare with her.

Proverbs 8:30–31 (ESV) ³⁰then I was beside him, like a master workman, and I was daily his delight, rejoicing before him always, ³¹rejoicing in his inhabited world and delighting in the children of man.

Prov. 9 The Way of Wisdom, vs. 1-12, and The Way of Folly, vs. 13-18

Prov. 10:1 – 24:34 - The Proverbs of Solomon. *(verses that caught Pastor Herb's attention are below)*

Personal relationships

Proverbs 10:12 ¹²Hatred stirs up strife, but love covers all offenses.

Proverbs 17:9 ⁹Whoever covers an offense seeks love, but he who repeats a matter separates close friends.

Proverbs 17:14 ¹⁴The beginning of strife is like letting out water, so quit before the quarrel breaks out.

Proverbs 17:17 ¹⁷**A friend loves at all times, and a brother is born for adversity.**

Proverbs 17:26 ²⁶To impose a fine on a righteous man is not good, nor to strike the noble for their uprightness.

Proverbs 18:1 ¹Whoever isolates himself seeks his own desire; he breaks out against all sound judgment.

Proverbs 18:17 ¹⁷**The one who states his case first seems right, until the other comes and examines him.**

Proverbs 18:22 ²²He who finds a wife finds a good thing and obtains favor from the Lord.

Proverbs 18:24 ²⁴A man of many companions may come to ruin, **but there is a friend who sticks closer than a brother.**

Proverbs 19:11 ¹¹Good sense makes one slow to anger, and it is his glory to overlook an offense.

Proverbs 19:13–14 ¹³A foolish son is ruin to his father, and a wife's quarreling is a continual dripping of rain.

¹⁴House and wealth are inherited from fathers, but a prudent wife is from the Lord.

Proverbs 19:18 ¹⁸Discipline your son, for there is hope; do not set your heart on putting him to death.

Proverbs 20:3 ³It is an honor for a man to keep aloof from strife, but every fool will be quarreling.

Proverbs 21:9 ⁹It is better to live in a corner of the housetop than in a house shared with a quarrelsome wife.

Proverbs 21:19 ¹⁹It is better to live in a desert land than with a quarrelsome and fretful woman.

Proverbs 22:6 ⁶Train up a child in the way he should go; even when he is old he will not depart from it.

Proverbs 22:10 ¹⁰Drive out a scoffer, and strife will go out, and quarreling and abuse will cease.

Proverbs 22:15 ¹⁵Folly is bound up in the heart of a child, but the rod of discipline drives it far from him.

Humility / God is in charge

Proverbs 12:1 ¹Whoever loves discipline loves knowledge, but he who hates reproof is stupid.

Proverbs 14:12 ¹²There is a way that seems right to a man, but its end is the way to death.

Proverbs 15:8–9 ⁸The sacrifice of the wicked is an abomination to the Lord, but the prayer of the upright is acceptable to him.

⁹The way of the wicked is an abomination to the Lord, but he loves him who pursues righteousness.

Proverbs 15:33 ³³The fear of the Lord is instruction in wisdom, and humility comes before honor.

Proverbs 16:18 ¹⁸Pride goes before destruction, and a haughty spirit before a fall.

Proverbs 16:25 ²⁵There is a way that seems right to a man, but its end is the way to death.

Proverbs 18:12 ¹²Before destruction a man's heart is haughty, but humility comes before honor.

Proverbs 18:13 ¹³If one gives an answer before he hears, it is his folly and shame.

Proverbs 18:16 ¹⁶A man's gift makes room for him and brings him before the great.

Proverbs 20:14 ¹⁴"Bad, bad," says the buyer, but when he goes away, then he boasts.

Proverbs 20:22 ²²Do not say, "I will repay evil"; wait for the Lord, and he will deliver you.

Guidance/ counsel/ living God's wisdom

Proverbs 11:14 ¹⁴Where there is no guidance, a people falls, but in an abundance of counselors there is safety.

Proverbs 13:20 ²⁰Whoever walks with the wise becomes wise, but the companion of fools will suffer harm.

Prov 14:14 The backslider in heart will be filled with the fruit of his ways, & a good man will be filled with the fruit of his ways

Proverbs 14:15 ¹⁵The simple believes everything, but the prudent gives thought to his steps.

Proverbs 14:26–27 ²⁶In the fear of the Lord one has strong confidence, and his children will have a refuge.

²⁷The fear of the Lord is a fountain of life, that one may turn away from the snares of death.

Proverbs 20:24 ²⁴A man's steps are from the Lord; how then can man understand his way?

Proverbs 21:30–31 ³⁰No wisdom, no understanding, no counsel can avail against the Lord.

³¹The horse is made ready for the day of battle, but the victory belongs to the Lord.

Words

Proverbs 10:19 ¹⁹When words are many, transgression is not lacking, but whoever restrains his lips is prudent.

Proverbs 12:22 ²²Lying lips are an abomination to the Lord, but those who act faithfully are his delight.

Proverbs 12:25 ²⁵Anxiety in a man's heart weighs him down, but a good word makes him glad.

Proverbs 13:3 ³Whoever guards his mouth preserves his life; he who opens wide his lips comes to ruin.

Proverbs 15:1–2 ¹A soft answer turns away wrath, but a harsh word stirs up anger.

²The tongue of the wise commends knowledge, but the mouths of fools pour out folly.

Proverbs 16:24 ²⁴Gracious words are like a honeycomb, sweetness to the soul and health to the body.

Proverbs 18:21 ²¹Death and life are in the power of the tongue, and those who love it will eat its fruits.

Actions/ obedience

Proverbs 10:23 ²³Doing wrong is like a joke to a fool, but wisdom is pleasure to a man of understanding.

Proverbs 10:26 ²⁶Like vinegar to the teeth and smoke to the eyes, so is the sluggard to those who send him.

Proverbs 11:17 ¹⁷A man who is kind benefits himself, but a cruel man hurts himself.

Proverbs 11:24 One gives freely, yet grows all the richer; another withholds what he should give, and only suffers want.

Proverbs 11:30 ³⁰The fruit of the righteous is a tree of life, and **whoever captures souls is wise**.

Proverbs 13:5 ⁵The righteous hates falsehood, but the wicked brings shame and disgrace. (through falsehood)

Proverbs 13:11 ¹¹Wealth gained hastily will dwindle, but whoever gathers little by little will increase it.

Proverbs 14:2 ²Whoever walks in uprightness fears the Lord, but he who is devious in his ways despises him.

Proverbs 16:31 ³¹**Gray hair is a crown of glory; it is gained in a righteous life.**

Proverbs 20:29 ²⁹The glory of young men is their strength, but the splendor of old men is their gray hair.

Proverbs 21:2 ²Every way of a man is right in his own eyes, but the Lord weighs the heart.

Work in obedience to God

Proverbs 14:4 ⁴Where there are no oxen, the manger is clean, but abundant crops come by the strength of the ox.

Proverbs 16:1–3 ¹The plans of the heart belong to man, but the answer of the tongue is from the Lord. ²All the ways of a man are pure in his own eyes, but the Lord weighs the spirit. ³Commit your work to the Lord, and your plans will be established.

Proverbs 20:25 ²⁵It is a snare to say rashly, "It is holy," and to reflect only after making vows.

Word pictures

Proverbs 11:22 ²²Like a gold ring in a pig's snout is a beautiful woman without discretion.

Proverbs 17:12 ¹²Let a man meet a she-bear robbed of her cubs rather than a fool in his folly.

Heart and soul stuff

Proverbs 13:12 ¹²Hope deferred makes the heart sick, but a desire fulfilled is a tree of life.

Proverbs 13:19 ¹⁹A desire fulfilled is sweet to the soul, but to turn away from evil is an abomination to fools.

Proverbs 14:13 ¹³Even in laughter the heart may ache, and the end of joy may be grief.

Proverbs 14:30 ³⁰A tranquil heart gives life to the flesh, but envy makes the bones rot.

Proverbs 16:32–33 ³²Whoever is slow to anger is better than the mighty, and he who rules his spirit than he who takes a city.

³³The lot is cast into the lap, but its every decision is from the Lord.

Contentment/ Trust

Proverbs 15:16–17 ¹⁶Better is a little with the fear of the Lord than great treasure and trouble with it.
¹⁷Better is a dinner of herbs where love is than a fattened ox and hatred with it.

Proverbs 16:8–9 ⁸Better is a little with righteousness than great revenues with injustice.
⁹The heart of man plans his way, but the Lord establishes his steps.

Proverbs 17:1 ¹Better is a dry morsel with quiet than a house full of feasting with strife.

Proverbs 17:3 ³The crucible is for silver, and the furnace is for gold, and the Lord tests hearts.

Proverbs 17:22 ²²A joyful heart is good medicine, but a crushed spirit dries up the bones.

Proverbs 18:14 ¹⁴A man's spirit will endure sickness, but a crushed spirit who can bear?

Proverbs 20:5 ⁵The purpose in a man's heart is like deep water, but a man of understanding will draw it out.

Proverbs 22:7 ⁷The rich rules over the poor, and the borrower is the slave of the lender.

Prov. 22:17 - 24:22 **Words of the Wise**; Prov. 24:23-34 **More Sayings of the Wise**

Proverbs 24:10 ¹⁰If you faint in the day of adversity, your strength is small.

Proverbs 24:17–18 ¹⁷Do not rejoice when your enemy falls, and let not your heart be glad when he stumbles,
¹⁸lest the Lord see it and be displeased, and turn away his anger from him.

Proverbs 24:19–20 ¹⁹Fret not yourself because of evildoers, and be not envious of the wicked,
²⁰for the evil man has no future; the lamp of the wicked will be put out.

Proverbs 24:26 ²⁶Whoever gives an honest answer kisses the lips.

Chronological Guide: pages 61, 64, 65

Takeaways:

