



**Main Point:** Known as the Book of Wisdom, Proverbs doesn't provide the reader with any new revelation or instruction from God, but was written by King Solomon with the intention of aiding the reader in how best to apply the knowledge provided through the Law to the practical challenges he encounters in everyday living. In essence Solomon takes the truth revealed through Scripture and proceeds to apply this truth to a wide array of practical life scenarios ranging anywhere from friendship, family, purity, marriage, domestic peace, good manners, work, education, modesty, child-rearing, speech, diligence, sex, submission to authority, happiness, etc. Though it's about impossible to organize the Book of Proverbs into a clearly defined outline, as Solomon addresses practical living and the various scenarios, we see that three contrasting characters begin to emerge, each approaching life from an entirely different perspective: The Wise, The Fool & The Simple. (Proverbs 14: 15-19) An examination of these characters, and the way in which the error of the "Fool" and the "Simple" will be explained, ultimately reinforces the core premise at the heart of Proverbs.... "The Fear of the Lord is the beginning of knowledge".

**Important Passage:** "To know wisdom & instruction.... to receive the instruction of wisdom.... to give prudence to the simple.... a wise man will hear & increase learning, a man of understanding will attain wise counsel.... The fear of the Lord is the beginning of knowledge, but fools despise wisdom and instruction." - Proverbs 1:2-7

## Three Characters Revealed in Proverbs

**1. Wise Man....** (also referred to as righteous, upright, diligent, understanding, & prudent) The "Wise Man" embraces the instructions of God and approaches life scenarios from a desire to please God and live consistent of the covenant relationship. As this man's knowledge of God increases, his relationship with God deepens, producing in turn a more righteous way of living through the wisdom imparted by the Spirit of God.

**2. Foolish Man....** (also referred to as wicked, scorner, lazy, lacking sense, crooked, perverse) The "Foolish Man" rejects the instructions of God and approaches life scenarios from a paganistic, carnally motivated desire to please himself. As this person continues to reject the knowledge of God, his perversion deepens thereby naturally producing more wickedness, sin, and personal and relational destruction.

**3. Simple Man....** The "Simple Man" is not fully committed to either wisdom or folly. This person has yet to determine whether to embrace the instructions of God and live a life accordingly, or reject the knowledge of God and live a life of self-gratification. Whether this person has yet to make this choice based upon laziness or some lack of self-motivation, Proverbs is clear the simple person is in grave danger of the temptations of sin.



### *Day 1: Shunning Evil.....*

**Proverbs 1:8-19 // THINKING POINTS:** (1). In this passage King Solomon address who we get our advice from by using a comparison method.... who's contrasted? (2). How does Solomon describe the counsel of your parents and what does he exhorts the young man to do in light of this counsel? (3). Ultimately what is the ploy of evil men?

### *Day 2: General Wisdom.....*

**Proverbs 3:1-35 // THINKING POINTS:** (1). What is the basic key to living a life of Godly enjoyment and satisfaction? (2). Solomon asks that we'd "acknowledge God" in all we do.... how do you do this? (3). As the Proverb comes to a close, what should the attitude and position of our heart be in regards to God? (Verse 34 holds the key.)

### *Day 3: If God Hates it I shouldn't do it.....*

**Proverbs 6:16-19 // THINKING POINTS:** (1). What are the six things that God hates to see in His creation called humanity? (2). Why do you think that God placed at the top of this list "a proud look"? (3). What do you learn about the nature of God through an examination of the things He hates..... after looking at this list, what do you need to work on?

### *Day 4: Titan Tongue.....*

**Proverbs 15:1-33 // THINKING POINTS:** (1). Read through this Proverb and jot down the main points Solomon makes concerning our tongue and the words that come from our mouths. (2). Words have incredible power, how have you used your words to accomplish good? (3). Beyond the impact our words can have on the people around us, what do words ultimately reveal about the heart of a person?

### *Day 5: Hot Mamma.....*

**Proverbs 31:10-31 // THINKING POINTS:** (1). If you were to develop a list describing the "virtuous woman" from this Proverb, what would be contained in this list? (3). How has our society skewed and distorted the beauty and attractiveness of women? (3). According to God the beauty of a woman is judged with an entirely different set of criteria.... do you view yourself as beautiful.... Gents, how do you judge beauty?

### *Day 6: Highlights.....*

**Various Proverbs // THINKING POINTS:** This video devotion contains various "highlighted" Proverbs that have spoke to me throughout the years.... read Proverbs & highlight your own!

# DEVOTIONS

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