

## Lesson 4. Proverbial Wisdom Leads to Ethical Living

Resources: Newheiser, J. (2008) Opening up Proverbs. Leominster: Day One Publications.

Kaiser Jr., Walter C. (2009) What Does the Lord Require. USA: Baker Academic

- I. The wonder of \_\_\_\_\_
  - a. Pro 1:20-33
  - b. Pro 4:5-9
  - c. Pro 8 and 9
  - d. Tools for the trade
  - e. Knowledge as compared to wisdom
  - f. Someone said “life lived in a sentence”

“The wisdom offered by the book of Proverbs is skill for living. Wisdom is not merely intellectual or academic; it is primarily moral. The book of Proverbs holds a special place in the Bible as the pinnacle of wisdom literature. Proverbs assumes and builds upon the precepts of the law and the admonitions of the prophets but goes beyond them in training the reader to live wisely in a very practical ‘how to’ way. There are details of character small enough to escape the mesh of the law and the broadsides of the prophets, and yet decisive in personal dealings”. (Newheiser, *Opening up Proverbs*)

- II. An example of wisdom applied
  - a. 1 Sam 25
  - b. Case study on Nabal, David, and Abigail

- III. To be or not to be, that is the question
  - a. \_\_\_\_\_
    - i. Listen to Instruction 1:5
    - ii. Fear the Lord 1:7
    - iii. Diligent in Work 10:4
    - iv. Preserve what they have gained 10:14
    - v. Associate with Wise People 13:20

- vi. Flee from Sin 14:16
- vii. Discipline their Speech 16:23
- viii. Seeking to Win others 11:30

- b. \_\_\_\_\_
  - i. Won't Learn 1:7
  - ii. Can't control Tongue 15:2
  - iii. Can't control Temper 12:16
  - iv. Proud, Self-Centered 28:26
  - v. Don't know how to use wealth 21:20
  - vi. Can't be trusted with responsibility 26:1

IV. True Success from Proverbs 3: An ethical outline

- a. Trust \_\_\_\_\_. Don't make any life decision without God's answer. Don't figure it out on your own. Many make big choices in life such as who to marry, and where to live and what career to choose without consulting God. In all thy ways acknowledge him.
- b. \_\_\_\_\_. Turn away from evil. Understand your own weakness and inability to life decisions apart from him.
- c. \_\_\_\_\_. Be a giver to God. Be a tither recognizing his ownership in life. This is the first step to proper management of money is acknowledging that God owns it all. This is a step of honor and faith.
- d. \_\_\_\_\_ of the Lord. Understand the love from which it comes. Understand the place that it means that you have. Embrace this help from God to conform you to the image of Christ.