

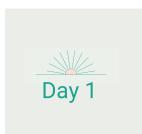
THE WISE & THE WIT



SERMON-TEXT DEVOTIONAL

NORTHVIEW COMMUNITY CHURCH

TEXT | PROVERBS 1

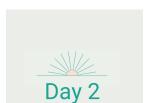


THE TITLE: Read Proverbs 1:1

The first verse of Proverbs serves as a title of sorts, so here are a few things we need to consider as we begin studying this book.

- What is a proverb? Consider verses 2-6.
- Who is Solomon? (Read 1 Kings 2:1-4, 3:4-9 and 1 Kings 4:29-33)
- If all scripture is useful for teaching, correcting and rebuking how might we expect God to use this particular book to train us in righteousness?

Pray in Adoration / Confession / Supplication

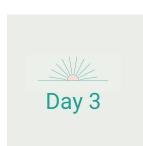


THE PURPOSE Read Proverbs 1:2-6

The purpose of the book of proverbs is spelled out in these verses. Let's consider these purposes and then ask God to accomplish them in our lives.

- We become wise through instruction. How do you allow Scripture to instruct your heart and mind?
- Wisdom leads to right living. Where do you need God to make you wise in the way you approach life's circumstances?
- To be a disciple of Jesus is to be a lifelong learner. Whether you are new to the faith, or a mature believer, what has God been teaching you?

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THE FOUNDATION: Read Proverbs 1:7

This verse is considered to be the core maxim of the book of Proverbs. Let's press into it a little bit.

- What do you think it means to fear the Lord?
 - Consider these passages and the surrounding context Job 28 and Acts 9:31.
- Why do you think the fear of the Lord is a prerequisite for obtaining knowledge and

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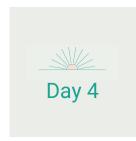
THE WISE & THE WITLESS



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TEXT | PROVERBS 1

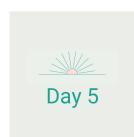


PARENTAL ADVICE: Read Proverbs 1:8-19

This passage begins a section of the book (1:8-8:36) that consists of 12 teachings about wisdom in the form of poems. Let's consider the first poem (1:8-19).

- Wisdom is likened to the instruction and teaching of one's Father or Mother. How are they described in verse 9?
 - What keeps children from gladly receiving instruction from their parents?
- This poem suggests that the unwise may prosper momentarily, but ultimately their pursuit of evil will lead to their demise. How does this poem parallel Jesus' words in Matthew 16:24-27.

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LADY WISDOM: Read Proverbs 1:20-33

Wisdom is personified in this teaching as a woman and she calls the gullible to listen to her plea.

- It is foolish to ignore and reject good advice (verse 20 25). Why do we so often ignore the wisdom and counsel of God and his people?
- Rejection of the ways of wisdom leads to disaster (verse 26-31). How has your own foolishness or rejection of wisdom caused distress in your own life?
- Verse 32 and 33 explain the different destinies of the wise and the fool. How does the gospel inform and deepen our understanding of this passage?

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