



SERMON-TEXT DEVOTIONAL

NORTHVIEW COMMUNITY CHURCH

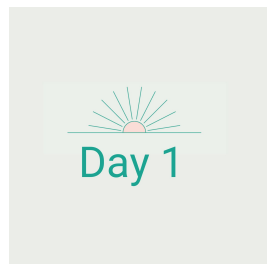
TEXT || PROVERBS 2-9:18

THE VALUE AND WORTH OF WISDOM: Read Proverbs 3:13-35

This week we will consider 5 of the 12 poems found in this first section of the book of Proverbs. Let's start with Proverbs 3:13-35 and learn about the value of wisdom

- Read verse 13-20. How valuable is wisdom according to the author? Write out some of the explanations that stand out to you.
- Consider the parallel between the value and worth of wisdom and the value and worth of Jesus.
 - Read Matthew 12:42 and Colossians 1:15-20
- Read verse 21-35. How does this instruction encourage or challenge us to be better neighbours?

Pray in Adoration / Confession / Supplication

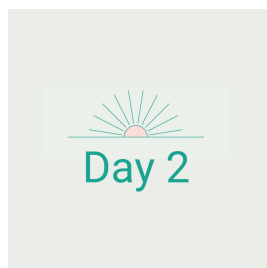


THE FOOLISHNESS OF ADULTERY: Read Proverbs 5:1-23

This teaching is the 8th poem out of 12 and it highlights the folly of adultery.

- Read verse 1-14. The Father pleads with his sons not to fall into the seductive trap of folly. How do the images of lust and adultery help us understand the pull away from wisdom and discretion?
- Read verse 15-20. The pull towards folly is juxtaposed with the safety of a covenantal relationship (marriage). What does this image teach us about our pursuit of Christ?
 - Consider Titus 2:11-14.
- Read verse 21-23. The father concludes by reminding us of God's omniscience and justice. What has this proverb revealed that you need to repent of today?

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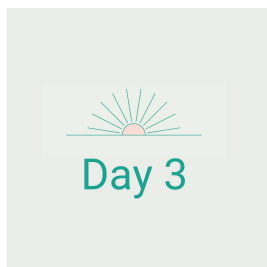


THREE FOOLS: Read Proverbs 6:1-19

This teaching speaks of 3 inferior types of men.

- Read verse 1-5. *The Indebted Man*: The warning to this man is against overpromising and involving oneself too deeply in the obligations of others.
 - How might Jesus' teachings in Matthew 5:33-37 inform this type of living?
- Read verse 6-11. *The Lazy Man*: Hard work is a noble trait. Would your family, friends and employer consider you a hard worker?
- Read verse 12-15. *The Rebellious Man*: We love to argue and disagree and condemn others, especially online. How might this be a warning to you?
 - Also consider Titus 3:9-10
- Read verse 16-19. Consider the 6 things that the Lord hates. Do you see any of these things in your own life?

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WISDOM'S CALL: Read Proverbs 8

This is the final poem of this section and it serves as a call for us to pursue wisdom.

- Read verse 1-11. Wisdom is calling out to us, the reader, and those who are growing in wisdom can't wait to learn more. How great is your desire to humble yourself and learn from our Lord?
- Read verse 12-31. Wisdom delights in creation and the created order. Consider the wisdom that is present when our world submits to God's design for creation and the folly that exists when we do not.
 - Look at Romans 1:20-25
- Read verse 32-36. Once again we receive a warning and are reminded of the two opposite fates of those who pursue wisdom and those who pursue folly. Looking back on your life, where would a good warning have been helpful?

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TWO INVITATIONS: Read Proverbs 9

This concludes this section of teaching in Proverbs and contrasts the two invitations of lady wisdom and lady folly.

- Read verses 1-6. *Lady wisdom's invitation:* Here we have an invitation to a glorious feast with a gracious host. Why do we, and so many, often refuse to 'leave our simple ways' and dine with such a host?
- Read verses 13-18. *Lady folly's invitation:* Here we have an invitation from a host who lacks judgment and offers us ultimate death. Why is lady folly's invitation so appealing?
- Consider these invitations in light of James 1:12-18.

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