

# Berwyn Church of Christ: Proverbs Study

Date	October 29 2025	<a href="#">Video Overview of Proverbs</a> We will watch to 4:40
Connecting Scriptures/Thoughts	Proverbs 1 The Beginning of Knowledge (Solomon)	
<p><b>Proverbs Overview:</b> Proverbs is a part of the wisdom literature contained in the Bible, think about the specific purposes of the following books: 1. Job teaches us how to suffer.2. Psalms teach us how to pray. 3. Proverbs teaches us how to act. 4. Ecclesiastes teaches us how to enjoy life 5. Song of Solomon teaches us how to love.</p> <p>Proverbs are written in a poetic style, but Hebrew poetry is not like English poetry. We rhyme ending sounds and strive for rhythms. Hebrew poetry rhymes ideas(see below) Knowing the various poetic styles helps you pull out deeper ideas. The parallels make us realize that Wisdom is trying hard to get people’s attention through the variety of ways Solomon says she is attempting to make herself heard. We also see that she isn’t found hidden away in a school. She is everywhere in town where she cannot be missed.</p> <p>Wisdom shouts in the street, She lifts her voice in the square; At the head of the noisy streets she cries out; At the entrance of the gates in the city she utters her sayings</p>		
<p>The purpose of the Proverb is explained: understand wisdom, discipline and be guided in the right way of living.</p> <p>Why is the FEAR of the Lord the beginning of knowledge? Remember what it means to Fear the Lord? Replace the word FEAR with another word/phrase to connect better. “The book of Proverbs is God as a Father desiring to sit down with us, His children, to teach us how to have a good life now. But as typical children, we do not want to listen to the wise teachings of God. <u>Our ignorance of the Proverbs is proof of our negative reaction.</u> Further proof is our desire to only hear spiritual applications not life changing applications. We want to hear about forgiveness of sins and the grace of God. We do not want to hear about how God has declared many of our life paths as foolish.” Brent Kercheville</p> <p>Spiritual vs Life Changing can’t they be the same thing?</p>	<p>[1] The proverbs of Solomon, son of David, king of Israel: [2] To know wisdom and instruction, to understand words of insight, [3] to receive instruction in wise dealing, in righteousness, justice, and equity; [4] to give prudence to the simple, knowledge and discretion to the youth— [5] Let the wise hear and increase in learning, and the one who understands obtain guidance, [6] to understand a proverb and a saying, the words of the wise and their riddles. [7] The fear of the LORD is the beginning of knowledge; fools despise wisdom and instruction. The Enticement of Sinners [8] Hear, my son, your father’s instruction, and forsake not your mother’s teaching, [9] for they are a graceful garland for your head and pendants for your neck. [10] My son, if sinners entice you, do not consent. [11] If they say, “Come with us, let us lie in wait for blood; let us ambush the innocent without reason; [12] like Sheol let us swallow them alive, and whole, like those who go down to the pit;</p>	

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Can you have a good life now, if you are only defensive about the teachings in Proverbs?

Solomon covers that this knowledge is good for everyone! V4-5

Proverbs teaches us not to be selfish but rather how to live justly, righteous life dedicated to fairness in the sight of God. Two roads diverged in a wood, and I—  
I took the one less traveled by,  
And that has made all the difference.  
Robert Frost- a little worldly wisdom

## **Two Paths**

Sinner's Path 9-19

Wise Path 20-33

Let's have fun and make some \$\$ v 14

What happens to those who pursue ill-gotten gain? V18-19

What actions do we see from WISDOM in v 20-21? What is ironic about the message in these 2 verses?

Why is it important to listen to wisdom ASAP and not when calamity strikes? V22-32

V32 is setting the stage for the beginning of chapter 2 which is about how to obtain wisdom!

[13] we shall find all precious goods, we shall fill our houses with plunder;  
[14] throw in your lot among us; we will all have one purse"—  
[15] my son, do not walk in the way with them; hold back your foot from their paths,  
[16] for their feet run to evil, and they make haste to shed blood.  
[17] For in vain is a net spread in the sight of any bird,  
[18] but these men lie in wait for their own blood; they set an ambush for their own lives.  
[19] Such are the ways of everyone who is greedy for unjust gain; it takes away the life of its possessors.  
[20] Wisdom cries aloud in the street, in the markets she raises her voice;  
[21] at the head of the noisy streets she cries out; at the entrance of the city gates she speaks:  
[22] "How long, O simple ones, will you love being simple? How long will scoffers delight in their scoffing and fools hate knowledge?  
[23] If you turn at my reproof, behold, I will pour out my spirit to you; I will make my words known to you.  
[24] Because I have called and you refused to listen, have stretched out my hand and no one has heeded,  
[25] because you have ignored all my counsel and would have none of my reproof,  
[26] I also will laugh at your calamity; I will mock when terror strikes you,  
[27] when terror strikes you like a storm and your calamity comes like a whirlwind, when distress and anguish come upon you.  
[28] Then they will call upon me, but I will not answer; they will seek me diligently but will not find me.  
[29] Because they hated knowledge and did not choose the fear of the LORD,  
[30] would have none of my counsel and despised all my reproof,  
[31] therefore they shall eat the fruit of their way, and have their fill of their own devices.  
[32] For the simple are killed by their turning away, and the complacency of fools destroys them;  
[33] but whoever listens to me will dwell secure and will be at ease, without dread of disaster." (ESV)