

Single & Single-Again TUES NITES Meal, Message & Mixer

A Meaningful Life

Jane Stolz' video teaching, handout, and audio Mp3 file of this message will be online to share with others at www.christiansinglesindenver.com

The book of Proverbs is about godly wisdom, how to get it and how to use it. It's about priorities and principles not get rich-quick schemes or success formulas. It tells you, not how to make a living, but how to be skillful in the lost art of making a life.

I. THE TITLE, 1:1 -The Preacher-Teacher of Proverbs.

II. THE THEME, 1:2 - Attaining Wisdom

To know: **G** _____ from **E** _____

To know: **R** _____ from **W** _____

Wisdom brings us into **H** _____ with the priorities and principles of God.

To discern is to have **I** _____.

III. THE PURPOSE, 1:3-6 - Imparting Wisdom to Men.

To receive instruction in wise behavior, righteousness, justice and equity

Righteousness implies right **B** _____, right **T** _____, & right **A** _____

Justice is the understanding and **A** _____ of right and wrong.

Equity is to **K** _____ what is fair and balanced

Prudence is the ability to escape the wiles of another (Gen. 3: 1) or the traps of life by knowing which course of action is best

How unfortunate it is that those most in need of these Proverbs avoid them and often will only learn their truth after repeated failures and bitter experiences.

Increase your knowledge of God's Word, for in it you will find the wisdom that you need for life, which comes from God's own mind.

The following are some things you should know about PERSONAL GROWTH.

Growth isn't **A** _____.

Growth today brings success **T** _____.

Growth is **Y** _____ responsibility.

The goal of learning should be to better know God and out of that knowledge to love Him, and to become like Him that we may possess true virtue and wisdom.

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IV. THE FOUNDATION, 1:7 - The Fear of the Lord.

"Fear" is R _____ for legitimate authority

Don't believe the faulty logic of fools. "The fear of the Lord is the beginning of knowledge!"

Education may make you smart, but only God makes you good.

Foolishness is a liar. It promises pleasure, peace, and prosperity. But, as its victims discover, it delivers the opposite. After the pleasure is a gaping void and inescapable pain.

Man's advice may or may not be good. It depends on where the man has derived his wisdom. The wisdom of God will give one the ability to make an eternally significant impact with your life.

Discussion Questions:

Have you ever read through the entire book of Proverbs? If so, how has this been valuable to you in your walk with Christ? If not, how do you think you could benefit from reading this book in the Bible?

People with wisdom have the skill to face life honestly and courageously and manage it successfully so that God's purposes are fulfilled in their life. Where do you think you've been lacking in wisdom? What would you like to see different in your life today?

Too often we have gone in our own strength and tried to "figure" things out. I know for me leaning on God's instruction has taught me a lot about life and relationships. How often do you think you go in your own strength and try and figure it out? How did or does that usually turn out for you?

We run across people every day and some are wise and some are not. Hearing about wise counsel from tonight's lesson and Proverbs, do you have certain people you would trust and ask for advice or would you consider changing the people in your life when needing advice? Expand on this as a group.

The goal of learning should be to better know God and out of that knowledge to love Him, and to become like Him that we may possess true virtue and wisdom. Pride seems to get in the way of our learning. Foolishness is a liar. It promises pleasure, peace, and prosperity. But, as its victims discover, it delivers the opposite. Where do you think you have been a victim in foolishness and where do you struggle most with Pride?