

## November 1 Proverbs 3:13-35

- 1. Other than your relationship with God, and leaving a Godly legacy, what is the one thing you want or desire most in life?
- 2. How does the pursuit in attaining wisdom and understanding compare to anything else you have a strong desire for?
- 3. Would you consider yourself someone who is chasing after the wisdom of Christ? Why or why not?
- 4. A primary struggle of the Christian life is competing affections. There are many "treasures" of lesser that call out to us. What are some competing "treasures" in your life that attempt to draw you away from knowing and following Christ?
- 5. In verse 21 Solomon tells his son not to lose sight of wisdom and discretion, and then he goes on to tell of the benefits of doing so. What do these benefits mean to you? How are they reflected in your life?
- 6. Verses 27-31 start off with "do not". How are you doing in these areas of your life? Who would be considered your neighbor? Tell of a time when you broke one of these "do nots".
- 7. As you look at verses 32-35 ask yourself these questions: Would you rather be an enemy or a friend of God? Would you rather be cursed or blessed by God? Would you rather be scorned by or given favor from God? Would you rather receive disgrace or honor from God?
- 8. Assuming you answered the previous questions as being a friend and follower of God, how do you need to change your life in order to be on the same side of these things as God?

# November 8 Proverbs 4:1-27

1. Name two things you've learned from your parents that has really resonated with you over the years.
2. In Proverbs 4 the father mentions how Godly wisdom was passed down to him from his father. What does this tell us about the value of investing in the next generation? What other passages of scripture speak to this theme? (i.e. Duet. 6:4-8)
3. Wisdom is once again personified as a woman (1:20-23, chapter 9). What do the metaphors of verses 8 and 9 tell us about the value of knowing God? Why would Solomon feel the need to continually repeat this theme (2:1-5, 3:13-14, etc.)?
4. Read verse 23. We're tempted to try and fix ourselves by focusing on the outside and working inward. Whether it's possessions, career, relationships, money, etc., we've all thought, "If I could just have, then I would be satisfied." How does verse 23 answer this idea?
5. Now read John 7:37-38. According to Jesus, how do we "keep the heart"?
6. "Get wisdom" and "Keep your heart" seem like straightforward commands, but how do we actually do this? Discuss some practical ways to grow in wisdom and diligently keep your heart grounded in Christ.

### November 15 Proverbs 5:1-23

1. Looking back to the beginning stages of your relationship with your mate, who was the first one to be interested in the other?

#### Read Proverbs 5

- 2. What are some of the lies concerning marriage and male/female relationships we see in the world today? How does this contrast to the biblical portrayal of marriage?
- 3. How is the adulterous woman described in 5:3? What is the meaning of the "honey" and "oil" in this verse?
- 4. Of what does 5:4 caution us? What are some possible consequences of an adulterous relationship in today's time?
- 5. What wise counsel is offered to us in 5:8 and in 6:27-29, 25? What kind of examples does Genesis 39:10 and 1 Corinthians 6:18 give us? Ask yourself, have I ever had to put these verses into action in my own life? Was my response pleasing to the Lord?
- 6. Proverbs 5:9-14 reinforces the admonition to stay away from tempting situations by again revealing the consequences of adultery and sexual immorality. What are the consequences listed in these verses?
- 7. What counsel is given to us in Proverbs 5:15-18? What do you think is being conveyed by means of the imagery used here?
- 8. What does the image of being intoxicated, or "drunk" on your wife communicate to you about marriage?
- 9. Do you think this would be appropriate material to teach your children at some point? Why or why not?

### November 29 Proverbs 6:1-19

1. What is the latest you've ever slept in? How old were you, and what was the reason or occasion?

Read Proverbs 6:1-19

2. As you read through this passage, it seems as though it's a disjointed list of advice. Do you see any sort of a common theme? How would you summarize what this passage is saying?

Every sin can be traced back to an underlying idol of the heart. An idol is anything that is more important to you than God.

- 3. As you look at verses 1-5, what are some of the underlying idols that would lead us to foolishness in our finances?
- 4. Now go through verses 6-11. What are some of the things that contribute to our own laziness? What can we do about it? What will happen if we don't address this area of our lives?
- 5. Read verses 12-15. What are some ways we are guilty of lying and being deceitful? What are some ways we are guilty of plotting evil and stirring up trouble? What will be the outcome if we don't get our act together? Based on previous studies in Proverbs, how can we get our act together in these areas of our lives?
- 6. Of the seven things listed in verses 16-19, which do you see most prominently in our culture (both church and secular cultures)?
- 7. It's very evident, in these three sections of scripture, that God is warning us to avoid these things. How can we consistently stay away from them? How can we help others (family members, friends, neighbors, co-workers, etc.) steer clear from them also?
- 8. It's obvious that as Christians we should hate the things God hates, and love what he loves. We have discussed what he hates, now list some things He loves (things we should also love).