

Let's Worship God

2nd-7th August 2021
Proverbs



trust

Trust in the LORD with all your heart
and lean not on your own understand-
ing; in all your ways acknowledge him,
and he will make your paths straight.

[Proverbs 3:5-6]

Monday - Proverbs 17:1-4 - Happiness and Trial

Verse 1 - Do you want to be happy? Who doesn't? What's the secret? Well, it's not really a secret because the Bible tells us over and over again. The world says that in order to be happy you need lots of things, or lots of love, or lots of popularity, or lots of good experiences. But God tells us that to be happy, we need the right attitude. We need faith, we need to love God, we need to live lives of obedience. Then, whether we have a dry crust or a feast, we are happy, we are content, we are at peace. When we have a loving relationship with God, our greatest desire is met. We are satisfied in Him.

Verse 2 - Those who are wise should be honoured, whether servants or sons. But danger comes with honour - the danger of pride. When we are promoted to a position of leadership above others, we need to be careful, to pray and pray for humility and faithfulness.

Verse 3 - God sees your heart and He tests your heart. He tests it in the fire and water of affliction, trouble, and hard times. These times reveal your faith for what it is. They purge out the dross, the sin in your life, and they make your love for God strong and pure. Yes, it hurts, but it is necessary to make you the person God wants you to be.

Verse 4 - It's not enough for a wicked man to sin himself - he wants to see and hear others doing what is wrong. He enjoys watching other people disobey God. Do you enjoy this? Do you like to talk to others about the sins of someone else? Does it entertain you to see people disobey God on television? Or is it obvious by your response that you have no time for sin?

Questions

1. How can you be happy? How can you be content?
2. What is the danger of promotion?
3. Why does God have to test us?
4. How can you respond to gossip?

Prayer Points

1. Give thanks for the trials God has sent you.
2. Use prayer points from your congregation.
3. Pray for family matters.

Memory Verse

Whoever restrains his words has knowledge, and he who has a cool spirit is a man of understanding. Proverbs 17:27

Praise: Psalm 115 - See www.rpglobalalliance.org for Psalm tune helps.

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Tuesday - Proverbs 17:5-8 Prayer

Verse 5 - If God controls all things, then those who are poor, are so due to His Providence. To mock them is to treat God lightly. Rejoicing in disaster is not something God calls us to do, not even when the disaster is seemingly well-deserved. We are to praise God for His holiness in punishing His enemies, but we are not to arrogantly rejoice over them. Instead, we should pray, pray for those who have not as much as we do, and pray for those who are experiencing some of God's judgement here on earth.

Verse 6 - How true this proverb is! Grandparents love their grandchildren; they are so proud and pleased with them that they speak of them all the time. And haven't we all seen children boast about something their dad could do. But how much greater is the love and pride we can feel when we know that our parents or our children or our grandchildren are walking in the ways of the Lord. Do you pray for your children? Your grandchildren? Your parents? Do you pray for the children and young people in the congregation?

Verse 7 - A fool has nothing to be proud about - he's a fool. And a ruler is meant to be honest, to enforce right and wrong, to be just. Lying rulers, common though they may be, are a contradiction. Your walk should match your talk. Christians should be Christ-like.

Verse 8 - People are swayed by money and by things. You know the saying, "Everyone has a price." What is your price? Does the Christian have a price? What would entice you to turn away from God? What can the devil offer to you that will give him success in your life?

Questions

1. How should we treat those who are suffering?
2. What should make us happiest about our children and young people?

Prayer Points

1. Pray for our children and young people.
2. Use prayer points from your congregation.
3. Pray for family matters.

Memory Verse

Whoever restrains his words has knowledge, and he who has a cool spirit is a man of understanding. Proverbs 17:27

Praise: Psalm 116 - See www.rpglobalalliance.org for Psalm tune helps.

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Wednesday - Proverbs 17:9-14 - Love

Verse 9 - When we make charitable judgements, when we forgive others, when we are slow to misunderstand and take offense, we promote love. It's easier to do this with some people than with others. But if we truly want to show the love of Christ to everyone, then we need to be slow to get angry and quick to forgive. But your closest friend will be annoyed if you walk around criticising him or her, betraying their confidence, and maliciously gossiping.

Verse 10 - A word of rebuke is all a wise man needs, but a hundred beatings will not change a fool. Why? Because one has a heart of flesh and the other a heart of stone. A needle pierces deeper into flesh, than a sword into a stone. A listening ear, a tender conscience, a soft heart, and a teachable spirit is what we need to spare ourselves the beating of the fool.

Verses 11-13 - This is an awful picture of an evil man. All he wants is to rebel against God. He's dangerous - he is out to get his own way. He's unreasonable. He's self-centred. The fool is ungrateful. God has given him many good things, and his response is to disobey, to rebel, to do evil. God will turn him over to his evil.

Verse 14 - How easy it is for an argument to escalate. One cross word leads to another; resentment comes boiling out, old issues are raked up, and before you know it relationships are broken. How can we avoid this? By having the loving attitude described in verse 9, being slow to take and give offense. We should examine the issues being argued over and decide if they are really worth breaking unity, and if they are, we must disagree in love.

Questions

1. How can we show love to others?
2. How should we take a rebuke?
3. Why is an evil man ungrateful?

Prayer Points

1. Pray that we would love others.
2. Use prayer points from your congregation.
3. Pray for family matters.

Memory Verse

Whoever restrains his words has knowledge, and he who has a cool spirit is a man of understanding. Proverbs 17:27

Praise: Psalm 117 - See www.rpglobalalliance.org for Psalm tune helps.

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Thursday - Proverbs 17:15-19 - For His Glory

Verse 15 - God hates it when we call wrong right and right wrong. Whether this happens in the courtroom, the classroom, the office, in the movies, on the radio, in the news - wherever - God hates it.

Verse 16 - Anyone who's not a Christian wastes their money. How? How can this be? There's plenty of wealthy men who invest their money, spending it carefully. But if they aren't a Christian, it doesn't do them any good. They can't take it when they die. They haven't used it to serve God; they have no desire to follow God, and so, ultimately, it is no use to them. Whenever you don't use what you have for God, you're wasting it, and whenever you do use it for Him, you are laying up treasures in heaven - investing in eternity.

Verse 17 - Christ loves His people at all times; He is there in all our troubles. He is our Friend and our Brother. True friendship brings glory to God when it is patterned on this love of Christ. When we love others in the same way that Christ loves us and because He loves us, we please God. The family of God is a tremendous blessing.

Verse 18 - Here is another warning against agreeing before you think. When someone asks you to do something, think about it. Is it wise? Is it Godly? Learn to say no to foolish and sinful requests.

Verse 19 - We can become involved in an quarrel through thoughtlessness, but that's different from loving to fight, loving to quarrel, loving to divide. The one who has that kind of heart attitude loves sin, for those things are the result of sin. Pride, the pride of loving quarrels, the pride of thinking yourself better than others, brings destruction.

Questions

1. How should we use our money?
2. What kind of friend should we be?
3. What should we do when someone asks us to do something?

Prayer Points

1. Pray that your friends and family would come to faith in Christ.
2. Use prayer points from your congregation.
3. Pray for family matters.

Memory Verse

Whoever restrains his words has knowledge, and he who has a cool spirit is a man of understanding. Proverbs 17:27

Praise: Psalm 118 - See www.rpglobalalliance.org for Psalm tune helps.

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Friday - Proverbs 17:20-23 - Rebel

Verse 20 - A man who has a perverse heart - who does not want to walk in the ways of God, but wants to follow his own path - will not prosper in the end. He will die, and he will face God in judgement. The liar may get through this life with deceit, but on that day of judgement, his lies will be exposed and the truth revealed.

Verse 21 - We've seen how Godly children are a joy. How sad it is to have children that are rebelling against God! How much worse when we admit it is because we have not been the faithful parents we should have been. But we must not despair. While there is life, there is hope, and there is time to pray, pray, and pray again for their salvation. There is also time to pray for forgiveness for failure, and strength to obey.

Verse 22 - If you really believe that the Gospel is good news, show that you believe it by being cheerful. Make it clear to the world that God is not a hard taskmaster, but a loving and good Father. Do not let the trials and hard times in your life master you and destroy you, but look for the good in them and trust in a good and loving Lord.

Verse 23 - We may think our deeds are done in secret. We may have special sins, temptations that we give into when we think there is no one around. Perhaps we fool everyone by our appearance on Sunday, by the way we sit in the pew and seem to listen, but in our hearts we know we don't care about God. Is this you? Be warned - God knows your heart. He sees all you do. He knows how you feel about Him. He knows you're just pretending to be a Christian. When you die, you will have to answer to Him.

Questions

1. What can we do if our children rebel against God?
2. How can we avoid a depressed spirit?
3. Who sees and knows all you do?

Prayer Points

1. Pray for a cheerful heart.
2. Use prayer points from your congregation.
3. Pray for family matters.

Memory Verse

Whoever restrains his words has knowledge, and he who has a cool spirit is a man of understanding. Proverbs 17:27

Praise: Psalm 119: part 1 - See www.rpglobalalliance.org for Psalm tune helps.

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Saturday - Proverbs 17:24-28 - Wise Parents

Verse 24 - A Christian always thinks about what God says in His Word. Whatever he does, he refers back to God's Word. His life is lived with the Bible as his map and guide. He tries to think about everything the way God thinks about it. But the fool is all over the place. He has no absolute standard of right and wrong. He's open to whatever seems good at the time.

Verse 25 - How can we avoid the grief of this verse? How can we make sure we are not raising foolish children who will turn against God? What steps can we take? We can train them in right and wrong, in the ways of God. How? Through reading God's Word to them. We can punish them when they follow their way instead of God's way. Does that seem harsh? How much worse, if we show them by never punishing, never disciplining that they can do whatever they want with no consequences. They will then follow their own way and reap terrible consequences. We need to take every opportunity to tell them the Gospel, to make clear to them their need to believe in Jesus Christ. And we need to pray without ceasing. We need to pray for their salvation, that God will keep His covenant promise, that they will grow in faith, that they will marry Godly spouses, and that they will raise Godly children.

Verse 26 - When innocent are punished, and those who do what's right are attacked, it is a sign of evil. Is Britain evil? Are not 'innocent' children massacred through abortion, and those who speak for them attacked?

Verses 27-28 - Think, think, and think again before you speak. The tongue is deadly, use it with care. Make sure you are using the right word at the right time.

Questions

1. How can we use God's Word to think about things?
2. How can we help our children most?

Prayer Points

1. Pray for the preaching and hearing of God's Word tomorrow.
2. Use prayer points from your congregation.
3. Pray for family matters.

Memory Verse

Whoever restrains his words has knowledge, and he who has a cool spirit is a man of understanding. Proverbs 17:27

Praise: Psalm 119: part 2 - See www.rpglobalalliance.org for Psalm tune helps.

The goal of Let's Worship God is to encourage and help you in your worship of God each day.

**God tells us that
Ezra read from
the book of the Law
day after day
and that
the people of God
were filled with joy!**

Let's Worship God is produced
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