

Let's Worship God

27th Sept - 2nd Oct. 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 26:12-19 - Careful Thought

Verse 12 - It's so easy to lie to ourselves - to think we are wiser and more Godly than we really are. We need to pray that God will keep us from deluding ourselves. That He will pull down our pride and imagined wisdom. That He will take the blindness from our eyes, so we will know who we really are, and that we will be clothed in humility from head to toe.

Verses 13-16 - This isn't just a picture of a lazy man, it is a picture of a man lazy about spiritual things. He finds it too hard to be a Christian - too much commitment, too much time, too much effort. He has loads of excuses and reasons to put off getting serious about Christ. He tries to walk a middle ground because he has a guilty conscience, but he just doesn't want to go forward in Christ. All he wants to do is maintain the status quo, and he thinks himself the better man for doing so - not too extreme. Does this describe you? Pray that you will not be lazy in the things of God.

Verse 17 - If we want to honour God in our Christian life, we need to take time at every step for prayer, and for acting wisely. Otherwise, we'll rush ahead to trouble. Even with the best of intentions, we often meddle in things that are not our concern. We are too quick to judge others and pick the worst moments possible for speaking to someone about what they've done. We need to turn the arguments and quarrels of daily life over to God in prayer and study His Word for wisdom in what we should do.

Verses 18-19 - Thoughtlessness makes other people miserable. But the thoughtless man or woman seldom realises this. They have no evil intentions, but in their joking and speech they are needlessly hurting others. Again and again, we need to think before we speak.

Questions

1. How can we see ourselves as we really are?
2. What is the cure for laziness in the things of God?
3. How should we deal with every situation that comes our way?

Prayer Points

1. Pray that we would think and pray before we act.
2. Use prayer points from your congregation.
3. Pray for family matters.

Memory Verse

Do not boast about tomorrow, for you do not know what a day may bring.
Proverbs 27:1

Praise: Psalm 142 - See www.rpglobalalliance.org for Psalm tune helps.

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Tuesday - Proverbs 26:20-28 - Deception

Verses 20-22 - If we want to stop the fire of quarrels and arguments, we need to deal with the gossip. We must remove him; stop him in his words; make him produce evidence; confront him with who he is gossiping about. This should prevent slander and put him to shame. Just as bad is a quarrelsome man. He is determined to have the last word, to stir up the fight. How often do we prefer the sharp witty response to the wisdom and grace of a soft answer. Do you watch against these sins. Do you resist the temptation to speak needlessly of the faults of others? Are you ready to give up the opportunity of telling a good story for fear of wounding a good name?

Verses 23-27 - Deception never wins in the end. God's providence brings dark deeds to light. Some men's sins are clearly seen in this life, others will be clearly seen on the day of judgement when God will rip the mask away, and men and women will stand before Him as they really are.

Verse 28 - Very rarely do we see a sin by itself. One sin starts another. Here, lying and hatred are linked together. Again we are warned as well against the flatterer. He may seem friendly and fun, but he causes trouble by filling us with pride and making us quick to do what he asks. Pray for wisdom to avoid the tricks of deception; grace to rise above false praise; and self-denial to be content and thankful no matter what people say about us. All these verses teach us how much God hates lies and attempts to deceive. They warn us against the common habit of being sloppy in what we say, in exaggerating or misleading others. The Christian needs to be known as a man or woman who always tells the truth.

Questions

1. How should we deal with gossip?
2. When will all our actions be brought to light?
3. How can we deal with flattery?

Prayer Points

1. Pray that we would be careful to speak the truth in all we say and do.
2. Use prayer points from your congregation.
3. Pray for family matters.

Memory Verse

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Proverbs 27:1

Praise: Psalm 143 - See www.rpglobalalliance.org for Psalm tune helps.

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Wednesday - Proverbs 27:1-6 - Christian Friendship

Verse 1 - How many people put off learning about Christ, reading His Word, and believing in Him till tomorrow. 'Another day will do,' they say, 'when I am older and not so busy.' 'When I have children'; 'when I get out of school'; 'when I feel like it'. So many excuses. And then tomorrow never comes. Sudden death or illness strikes, old age creeps up on them unawares, and before they know it, it's too late. They are facing a lost eternity. If you have been making excuses, stop now, for God gives you no guarantee that you'll be alive tomorrow.

Verse 2 - A Christian should never sing their own praises. How can he? How can someone who has said to God, "Be merciful to me, a vile sinner," say to others, "Come see what I've done for the Lord; come see how humble I am!" It just doesn't make sense.

Verses 3-4 - To be made fun of for being a Christian is often harder to bear than just about anything else. Why? Because our own sin and Satan himself want it that way. But instead of being provoked by those who have no love of God, we need to pray for them. Jealousy is another tool Satan uses to attack God's people. It is unreasonable and fierce. And the unbeliever is jealous - he wants the peace and joy and love a Christian has, but he's not prepared to believe.

Verses 5-6 - What kind of friend do you want? Who will be a blessing to you? The man or woman that humours your sins and feeds your pride? We are poor, straying sinners, and we need a friend who will be quick to tell us when we are turning from God. Rebuke, kindly, considerately, and prayerfully given, cements friendship, rather than loosens it. The mark of true godliness is a desire to have our faults pointed out; and a thankfulness to those who do it. But how thankful are you?

Questions

1. What is wrong with counting on tomorrow?
2. What kind of friend do we need?

Prayer Points

1. Pray for your Christian friends.
2. Use prayer points from your congregation.
3. Pray for family matters.

Memory Verse

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Proverbs 27:1

Praise: Psalm 144 - See www.rpglobalalliance.org for Psalm tune helps.

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Thursday - Proverbs 27:7-10 - The Greatest Friend

Verse 7 - You have a choice. You can be full with the things of the world or hungry for the Word of God. To be stuffed with earthly things will give you no lasting happiness, but to hunger and thirst after the things of God will bring joy, peace, and contentment.

Verse 8 - There are two ways we can apply this verse. First, there is the danger of wandering from the things of God. As we have seen throughout Proverbs, this road takes us away from peace, joy, and security to destruction and death. Second, we are being taught to be content. God has put each of us in a particular situation as part of His plan for His Church. When we start wandering from the jobs He's given us to do and start interfering and meddling in things that aren't our job, we are not just disobeying, we are destroying the unity of the church. We need to be content where God has put us.

Verse 9 - We've seen how a true Christian friend will not hesitate to rebuke us when we are doing wrong, but here is the other side of Christian friendship. It is sympathetic and kind. We put ourselves in our friends shoes and try to see things the way they do. Our advice to them is loving and centred on what's best for them, not ourselves. This kind of friendship is refreshing and a joy.

Verse 10 - Jesus Christ is our greatest friend. He is a wise friend who knows what we need. He is a sympathising friend who sees our sadness, hurt, and pain. He is a mighty friend, able to protect and provide. He is a faithful friend, true to His word, and He is a sure friend, who will never leave. Is He your friend?

Questions

1. What is the danger of wandering from the things of God?
2. How should we treat our friends?
3. Why is Christ our greatest friend?

Prayer Points

1. Give thanks for Christ's love for you.
2. Use prayer points from your congregation.
3. Pray for family matters.

Memory Verse

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Praise: Psalm 145 - See www.rpglobalalliance.org for Psalm tune helps.

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Friday - Proverbs 27:11-17 - Prudence

Verse 11 - The Christian parent has no greater joy than to see their children walking in the ways of the Lord. And no greater sorrow than to see them turn their back on the Lord. Pray for our covenant children, that they will bring us joy and not sorrow.

Verse 12 - The prudent man sees the consequences. He knows he's a sinner, and he sees what that sin brings - the wrath and curse of God. So, he flees to Christ as his refuge. Putting his trust in Jesus as his Saviour, his sins are forgiven and God's anger is turned away. But the fool carries on in his sins, regardless of eternal consequences, straight into suffering.

Verse 13 - It is important to be prudent, not to trust those who are untrustworthy, not to jeopardise our family's security through bad judgements on our part.

Verse 14 - It's not wrong to bless our friend, but this verse is talking about loud flattery. Flattery that starts as soon as they see us and makes us wonder what they want from us. Real friendship doesn't need this. One act of love is worth more than many loud blessings.

Verses 15-16 - Why does the Bible warn us so many times about this kind of wife? Because it knows we are too prone to pick our husband or wife, boyfriend or girlfriend, based on appearance or charm or pure attraction instead of Godly character. A godly husband or wife is a blessing from the Lord, and an unGodly one is a trial for which we need strength and grace.

Verse 17 - The Church is a blessing. It gives us Christian friends who encourage, teach, rebuke, help, and hold us accountable. Our MET groups alone are a perfect example of iron sharpening iron - one man or woman's Christian life encouraging another. Give thanks for this blessing.

Questions

1. What brings a Christian parent joy?
2. How can we escape the consequences of our sin?

Prayer Points

1. Give thanks for the church.
2. Use prayer points from your congregation.
3. Pray for family matters.

Memory Verse

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Saturday - Proverbs 27:18-22 - Satisfaction

Verse 18 - This is an encouragement to be diligent in serving the Lord. Those who are faithful in serving Jesus Christ will be honoured and rewarded by Him.

Verse 19 - Water acts as a mirror. It shows us what is really there. In the same way, our hearts show us what we're really made of. It's not our talk or our actions for these can be fake, put on for the sake of impressing others or avoiding embarrassment, but our heart is who we really are - sinners saved by grace or sinners rebelling against God.

Verse 20 - Man is always seeking for what he can never find, satisfaction in earthly things. No matter what he achieves, no matter what he owns, no matter who loves him, it's never enough. He's not happy, and he's not content. This shouldn't surprise us. God created us with a soul that will never die. How can we be satisfied with things that end? The soul was made to find satisfaction and joy in the love of its Creator. Now, turned away from that because of the Fall, we have a 'God-shaped' space in our lives that can't be filled by anything else. Men and women need to know what will fill that space in their lives - they need the Gospel.

Verse 21 - If a man is proud, praise will puff him up; if he is wise, it won't affect him at all. We need to be humbled by praise, understanding how little we deserve it; it should make us more careful and diligent. Be careful in giving praise and be careful in receiving praise.

Verse 22 - We can't change hearts, no matter how hard we try through our words and our actions. Circumstances can't change hearts, no matter how difficult or wonderful. God alone can change hearts through the power of the Holy Spirit. Let us pray that He will.

Questions

1. What do our hearts tell about us?
2. What is the only thing that will satisfy us?

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

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Praise: Psalm 147 - 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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