Let's Worship God

12th-17th April 2021 Proverbs





Monday - Proverbs 3:1-4 - Love and Faithfulness

God is speaking to us as our Father here, urging us to not forget what He has to say in His Word - to store it up in our heart. True obedience begins in the heart. The heart is the first thing that wanders from God and the first thing that turns to God. We can act in a right way all we want, but it if does not come from a heart right with God -a heart that loves God, it is useless. The heart is the starting point for our behaviour, and God has told us to keep His Word there.

The reward of obedience from the heart is a long and happy life. But how can this be? Aren't there many unbelievers, men and women who don't love God, who live long and seemingly happy lives? And aren't there many believers who love God with all their hearts who suffer throughout their life, or tragically die at a young age? But the believer also has eternal, perfect life in heaven. No matter how short his days on earth, you are adding eternity on to them. But those who hate God will die eternally. And all the suffering a believer endures in this life will bring with it God's strength, God's help, God's peace, enabling that believer to rejoice in the midst of trials.

Love and faithfulness are at the heart of wisdom. God has made a covenant with His people - a covenant of salvation. This covenant is based on His love for us, and He is faithful to keep His covenant obligations. Our response to God should also be one of love and faithfulness. We should obey God out of a heart of love for Him. This is wisdom - knowing and doing what God wants out of a heart of love. When we live in this way, not only do we bring glory to God, the world sees that we mean what we say.

Questions

- 1. Where does true obedience begin?
- 2. What will true obedience result in?

Prayer Points

- 1. Give thanks for the love and faithfulness of God.
- 2. Use prayer points from your congregation.
- 3. Pray for family matters.

Memory Verse

Trust in the Lord with all your heart, and do not lean on your own understanding. Proverbs 3:5

Praise: Psalm 19 - See www.rpglobalalliance.org for Psalm tune helps.



Tuesday - Proverbs 3:5-6 - Trust in All Things

A child of God has faith - faith in His Father's providence, promises, and grace. This is a whole-hearted trust, like the trust of a child that automatically assumes that his mum or dad will take care of him, feed him, protect him, and do what's best for him. It is an unquestioning, unwavering confidence that God is wise, faithful, and loving. It is knowing that God's ways are best, and it is essential to have this trust in order to gain wisdom.

The Christian's trust is not just wholehearted, it is exclusive. We are to trust in God and nothing else. No person or thing should be given the amount of trust that we give God. This doesn't mean we don't ask friends for advice or believe what others say, but as the final determiner of right and wrong and what to do, we must turn to God. He, through His Word, must have final say in our life, and we should trust the opinions of others only if they agree with what God says. Above all else, we must be careful that we don't put ourselves in place of God. Far too often we think we know best, and when it comes to God's way or ours, we go with our way. Why? Because we think we're right - we want to be the final authority. But wisdom is found in trusting God to be the final authority.

We aren't just to trust God with part of our life - we are to trust Him with all of our life. Every step we take in our lives, no matter how small or seemingly insignificant, should be tested with those questions: What does God's Word say about this? Is this what God wants me to do? How arrogant to think you don't need to consult God about something. And yet we do it every day. Do you think about what God wants when you decide what to wear or what to eat? Or do you think those things don't matter? A Christian should be very conscious at all times of God. The path of wisdom lies in coming to God for guidance in every area of our life.

Questions

- 1. What kind of trust are we supposed to have in God?
- 2. What should we ask ourselves before we do anything?

Prayer Points

- 1. Pray that God would help us ask Him how to do all things.
- 2. Use prayer points from your congregation.
- 3. Pray for family matters.

Memory Verse

Trust in the Lord with all your heart, and do not lean on your own understanding. Proverbs 3:5

Praise: Psalm 20 - See www.rpglobalalliance.org for Psalm tune helps.



Wednesday - Proverbs 3:7-12 - Honouring the Lord

This warning against self-confidence is connected to the verses before it. Who are we to put our trust in? God. We are not the source of wisdom - God is. Trusting God requires us to leave evil behind. When God is honoured, sin is hated and resisted, and the result is a healthy soul and often a healthy body as sin has physical consequences as well as spiritual ones.

Again and again in God's Word, He tells us that if we give wholeheartedly to Him, we will not lack anything. The world just can't understand this. How can you give something away and end up richer? But it's true. Everything we own belongs to God - He has entrusted it to us to use for His glory and our good. The servant of God considers it a privilege to return a portion of it to the Lord. And if you love somebody, you don't want to give them the worst or the left-overs, you want to give them the best, and it makes you happy to do it. If we truly love God, we should cheerfully want to give Him our best - the best of our money, the best of our time, the best of our efforts. And God promises, not only here but throughout the Bible, to more than make up for whatever we give to Him.

But not only can we honour the Lord with the things He has given to us, we can honour the Lord with the way we respond to His treatment of us. When we humbly and cheerfully recognise that God's ways are best, no matter what they are, this honours Him. When we see that we are sinful and do need to be corrected, and that God is correcting us as a Father for our own good, we honour Him. But when we refuse to learn anything from our trials, or complain against God and what He has given us, or wallow in self-pity over a particular hardship, we are despising and resenting the discipline of God and God Himself.

Questions

- 1. What happens when we honour God with our money?
- 2. How should we respond to the hard things God sends us?

Prayer Points

- 1. Pray that we would honour God with all our hearts.
- 2. Use prayer points from your congregation.
- 3. Pray for family matters.

Memory Verse

Trust in the Lord with all your heart, and do not lean on your own understanding. Proverbs 3:5

Praise: Psalm 21 - See www.rpglobalalliance.org for Psalm tune helps.



Thursday - Proverbs 3:13-26 - Wisdom and Security

The wisdom of the world does not give happiness the way God's wisdom does. It may give momentary pleasure, but nothing like the long-lasting treasure and joy described in these verses that is found in the wisdom of loving God and doing what He says. We can look forward to heaven and riches, joy and eternal life, but we also can find, through wisdom, pleasantness and peace here on earth. This is the contentment, joy, and peace that comes from resting in the Lord and doing what He says, and it is present no matter what the outside circumstances are.

Solomon shows us the blessings of wisdom, but he also shows us that God Himself uses wisdom in creating and taking care of the world. God's wisdom has been around since before the earth is made, and you can see in all of creation how it reflects a wise God, an understanding God, and a God of knowledge.

Again and again Solomon wants to impress upon us the need to have wisdom and the benefits of this wisdom. Again and again we need to be reminded to seek after God and His ways; we need to be told repeatedly that what God has said and told us to do is best. We must keep the things of God in the front of our mind, close to our heart.

With wisdom comes safety, but when we are caught up in how the world does things and in trying to please people more than pleasing God, things get complicated and slippery. When we take our eyes off wisdom, we will stumble and fall in our Christian life, but when we keep our focus on what God wants and on loving Him, we have nothing to be afraid of

Questions

- 1. What are the benefits of wisdom?
- 2. Why do we need to be reminded to pursue wisdom?
- 3. How can we be safe in all we do?

Prayer Points

- 1. Pray for Christians being persecuted in other countries.
- 2. Use prayer points from your congregation.
- 3. Pray for family matters.

Memory Verse

Trust in the Lord with all your heart, and do not lean on your own understanding. Proverbs 3:5

Praise: Psalm 22 - See www.rpglobalalliance.org for Psalm tune helps.



Friday - Proverbs 3:27-30 - Good and Evil

Solomon is now coming to the practical applications of wisdom - how does God want us to live our life in a variety of situations. He speaks against selfishness, not doing good to someone when it is within your power to do it. This could be through not returning what you've borrowed, not paying people what you've promised, or not lending a hand when you can give help in some way. But even more than this, there is a Gospel application. We have an obligation to speak to others of Christ. Isn't this the best good you can do for anyone? Yet, how often do we withhold speaking to others of their need of salvation when we are given opportunities.

We are not to delay in doing good to others; we are not to put them off till it is more convenient for us, hoping they might forget about it. A little help given when it is needed is far better that a lot of unecessary help at some later date. We, as Christians commanded by God to show love to others, need to train ourselves to observe and be sensitive to what others need. People will not always ask for help, and we need to notice whether they need any help that we can give. We can do this by putting ourselves in other people's places - looking at things from their perspective; this will help us figure out what kind of help they might need. We also need to be ready to help at any time - this is the unselfish love that God calls us to.

Besides commanding us to do good to others, we are forbidden from doing evil. To betray and hurt your friends is even seen by the world as despicable. But how many churches are full of people who smile at each other and then rip them to shreds in their gossiping conversations. Even the world has no time for those looking for fights, but the church is full of "Christians" who constantly are stirring up trouble and quarrels.

Questions

- 1. How can we figure out if someone needs help?
- 2. How can we be careful in talking about others?

Prayer Points

- 1. Pray that we would guard our speech and show love to others.
- 2. Use prayer points from your congregation.
- 3. Pray for family matters.

Memory Verse

Trust in the Lord with all your heart, and do not lean on your own understanding. Proverbs 3:5

Praise: Psalm 23 - See www.rpglobalalliance.org for Psalm tune helps.



Saturday - Proverbs 3:31-35 - Not Worth Envying

What could we possibly envy about a violent man? But people do have a love of power, a love of feeling stronger than others, or a love of being able to get their own way. The world says these things are valuable and important, but God says otherwise. God says these men and attitudes are detestable in His eyes. Instead, we should envy the Godly man, the man the world calls useless but whom God calls a friend. Isn't it better to be called a friend of God than to have the admiration of the world?

God's blessing and curses affect not just us, but our families, our relatives, our neighbours. We see this ourselves - men and women whose sins have caused their children first to imitate them, then to hate them, and to end up with their lives even more a mess than their parents. Sin rips families apart, destroys relationships, and makes a home a place of anger and hatred. But those who follow the Lord see His blessing upon children who seek after God, who grow in heir love and understanding of others, and often the fear of God brings families closer together.

God hates pride; He hates those who think they know best and set themselves in place of God. Most of all He hates those who mock those who are doing what is right. But the man or woman who recognises what a sinner they are and how much they need the Lord to do anything will have the grace of God poured out upon them. These are the people God has time for - the people who know they need Him.

Solomon ends this chapter focusing on the benefits of wisdom. The wise are honoured by God. This is contrasted with the foolish who have no time for God, and yet seem to prosper, but whose end is destruction. Once again Solomon assures us that in wisdom lies true blessing.

Questions

- 1. How does sin affect our family?
- 2. How can we grow in humility?

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

Trust in the Lord with all your heart, and do not lean on your own understanding. Proverbs 3:5

Praise: Psalm 24 - 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 by the Reformed Presbyterian Church of Scotland.