# Let's Worship God

3rd-8th May 2021 Proverbs

### trust

Trust in the LORD with all your beart and lean not on your own understanding; in all your ways acknowledge him, and he will make your paths straight. [Proverbs 3:5-6]

Trust in the LORD with all your best and lean not on your own understanding; in all your ways acknowledge him, and he will make your paths straight. [Proverbs 3:5-6]

#### Monday - Proverbs 6:20-29 - Godly Parents

It's as if Solomon can't say enough how much children should value the teaching of Godly parents. Godly teaching of children and young people is valuable wherever it comes from, but it is the primary responsibility of the parents to instruct their children in the things of God. So, for parents especially this is a reminder of the huge responsibility they have to teach their children about God. For children and young people, this is a reminder to listen to and value the things their parents teach them. And for others in the church this is a reminder of their responsibility to help and encourage the parents in teaching their children about God and His Word.

When we have been taught God's Word, when we store it up in our head and our heart, it will be an invaluable friend. It will guide us in what we should do in all situations; it will comfort and encourage us in our troubles; and it will help us to fight the temptations of the world, our own sinful nature, and the devil. God's Word is a light for how we are to lead our life.

Solomon tells us to use God's Word to resist temptation. Faithfulness to God keeps us from making foolish and sinful decisions - we will be used to trying to look at things God's way, and sin will jump out at us for what it really is. But if we drift away from the things of God, we begin to have confidence in our own spiritual strength. We start thinking that we can play around with sin and not get hurt. Solomon tells us how foolish this is. Sin and it's consequences are unbreakably bound together. The solution is to keep our eyes on Christ and flee temptation and sin, not to play games with God and the devil.

#### Questions

- 1. What is the responsibility of parents?
- 2. How can God's Word help us?
- 3. What happens if we commit "just one little sin"?

#### **Prayer Points**

- 1. Give thanks for Godly teaching.
- 2. Use prayer points from your congregation.
- 3. Pray for family matters.

#### **Memory Verse**

For the commandment is a lamp and the teaching a light, and the reproofs of discipline are the way of life, Proverbs 6:23

Praise: Psalm 37 - See www.rpglobalalliance.org for Psalm tune helps.



Trust in the LORD with all your heart and lean not on your own understanding; in all your ways acknowledge him, and he will make your paths straight. [Proverbs 3:5-6]

#### Tuesday - Proverbs 6:30-35 - Sympathy For Sin?

God says in His Word that hard work is the means He has given for us to provide for ourselves and our family. But what happens if we can't work? If we've been made redundant or injured ourselves or can't find a job? What do we do then? We are to trust in God, as we should do at all times, to take care of us, and we should go to our family and/or to the church, specifically the deacons, for help. Solomon is not excusing stealing here; he is saying that the extreme temptation that the very poor face when they steal should make us pity them, not despise them. We can't say they are right to steal, but we should have a lot of understanding and sympathy for them.

Adultery on the other hand is something with which we should have no sympathy. People need to eat, but they don't need to have an affair. It is a sin that destroys families and friends, makes bad situations worse, and brings unforgettable and unforgivable consequences. There is no need that drives people to this sin - just the desire to have what they want. But the world around us is screaming, through tv, films, and music, that adultery is completely understandable and often necessary. How often is the guilty party portrayed as the victim, with no freedom to "love" whom they want and forced to break "free". We are told to sympathise with these people, but God's Word tells us that if we are going to feel sorry for them it should be because they are on the road to a lost eternity.

But before you are too quick to condemn others or to mark this off as another sin you are not committing, look at your life. Are you sensitive to the first beginnings of this temptation? Do you avoid all that is impure and set your mind on what is good and holy? We must continually watch and pray for none of us is as strong as we think.

#### Questions

1. Why is a starving man stealing food more understandable than adultery?

2. Why does the world see evil as good?

#### **Prayer Points**

- 1. Pray that we would see sin as God sees it.
- 2. Use prayer points from your congregation.
- 3. Pray for family matters.

#### **Memory Verse**

For the commandment is a lamp and the teaching a light, and the reproofs of discipline are the way of life, Proverbs 6:23

Praise: Psalm 38 - See www.rpglobalalliance.org for Psalm tune helps.

Trust in the LORD with all your beat and lean not on your own understanding: in all your ways acknowledge him, and he will make your paths straight. [Proverbs 3:5-6]

#### Wednesday - Proverbs 7:1-5 - Love of God's Word

Again and again Solomon tells us to study wisdom in the Word of God. Why? Why does he keep repeating himself? Does he think we're stupid? Or does he just know us really well? Does he realise that we need to have things repeated to us over and over again, so we'll see how important it is and fix it in our own head and hearts?

Our whole being should be taken up with the pursuit of wisdom. We should be seeking after how God wants us to live with all our hearts, minds, and strength. Daily we should be studying God's Word, keeping it, not on the shelf, but in our heart. Not just part of the Word of God, but the whole Word of God, should be our precious treasure. We should take in the promises and obey the commandments.

We should treat God's Word with respect. Every part of it should be seen as important and true. To explain away parts of the Bible, or lower its requirements, opens the door to temptation. We end up being the ones who decide what to do. If we pick and choose what parts of the Bible we're going to follow, we're saying that we are the ultimate judge of right and wrong.

We should keep God's Word always at hand for constant use. We should work to memorise as much of it as we can, so that in any situation, we will have what God says about it stored up in our head.

Finally, we should love God's Word. This is key to sending temptation and sin out the door. If we don't love the things of God our obedience will be a duty far too easily discarded when what we do love calls to us. But if we love God, we will love what He says, and if we love what He says, we will do what He says, and we will prefer to do it to anything else.

#### Questions

1. Why can't we pick and choose what parts of the Bible to follow?

2. What is the key to fighting sin?

#### **Prayer Points**

- 1. Give thanks for God's Word.
- 2. Use prayer points from your congregation.
- 3. Pray for family matters.

#### **Memory Verse**

For the commandment is a lamp and the teaching a light, and the reproofs of discipline are the way of life, Proverbs 6:23

Praise: Psalm 39 - See www.rpglobalalliance.org for Psalm tune helps.

Trust in the LORD with all your beat and lean not on your own understanding; in all your ways acknowledge him, and he will make your paths straight. [Proverbs 3:5-6]

#### Thursday - Proverbs 7:6-23 - Idle Hands

We can trace the sin of this foolish young man from beginning to end. In the beginning he is just wasting time, taking a lazy walk, late at night, thinking about nothing in particular. All of this leaves him wide open to temptation. We may laugh at the old saying "idle hands are the devil's playground", but there is a bit of truth in it. It's not wrong to relax, it's not wrong to go for a walk in the evening, the danger comes when we stop thinking, we stop being on guard against sin, we stop focusing on God. Relaxing, walking, thinking about things other than your work, these are fine and good, but when you empty your mind, you aren't thinking about anything good or having any good purpose in what you are doing. You may not be thinking anything bad yet, or doing anything bad, but the mere absence of doing something good leaves a vacancy that will be filled by bad. It's like the parable Jesus told of the man who got rid of all the demons in his house, cleaned his house up, but filled it with nothing good, just left it empty, and the demons came back worse than before.

This woman uses religion to excuse her sin. It's like she feels that by making her offerings, she has made God happy, and now she can do what she wants. We do this too - often we put in our time at worship or even personal prayer and Bible reading and go on to forget about God the rest of the day. It's as if we think we've done our bit for God, now we can go on with our lives. We may not think it through like that, but it's there.

So, the young man closes his eyes and stops up his ears to the consequences of his sin and goes confidently forward as though all will be well. It's an ending that most could have predicted when they first see him go down the road to the harlot's house. It doesn't take a lot to realise that when we start out open to temptation, we usually end up in sin.

#### Questions

- 1. Where does this man's sin start?
- 2. How do we use our faith to excuse our sin?

#### **Prayer Points**

- 1. Pray that God would keep you from temptation.
- 2. Use prayer points from your congregation.
- 3. Pray for family matters.

#### Memory Verse

For the commandment is a lamp and the teaching a light, and the reproofs of discipline are the way of life, Proverbs 6:23

Praise: Psalm 40 - See www.rpglobalalliance.org for Psalm tune helps.



Trust in the LORD with all your heart and lean not on your own understanding in all your ways acknowledge him, and he will make your paths straight. [Proverbs 3:5-6]

#### Friday - Proverbs 7:24-27 - Warning

Solomon has shown us the path to sin and the results of sin. He has described how giving into temptation leads to bitterness, death, and destruction. He says now that we have seen the end result of sin, we should listen to him. We must avoid any impure thoughts, or books, filthy talking, foolish company, movies or music that fill our minds with sin. If we dread the first step of temptation and don't imagine ourselves spiritually stronger than we are, we'll be doing well. The more familiar we become with sin, the harder it will be for us to avoid it.

Don't think that because you are a Christian you don't need these warnings. Yes, you are a new creation in Christ, but you are also fighting a war with your old sinful nature. Many stronger Christians than you have fallen into deep sin. Guard yourself against pride and thinking you would never do such a sin. And don't make the mistake of thinking that because no immediate temptation confronts you, you are in no danger. We all have within us the ability to commit the most awful, hideous sins; we don't usually, because we have God's restraining hand and His grace upon us. But we must pray that God would enable us to resist all temptation in whatever form it comes. Only by trusting in God's strength are we safe.

And for those, really all of us, who have sinned, who have given into temptation, who have started down the path to destruction, there is hope. There is a cure for our sin, our wickedness, our weakness. The love of Christ is the remedy for the love of sin. Christ has died on the cross to pay for the sins of His people, and by trusting in Him, we are taken from the path of death to the path of life.

#### Questions

- 1. What is the danger of being familiar with sin?
- 2. What keeps us from sinning?
- 3. What is the cure for our sins?

#### **Prayer Points**

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

#### Memory Verse

For the commandment is a lamp and the teaching a light, and the reproofs of discipline are the way of life, Proverbs 6:23

Praise: Psalm 41 - See www.rpglobalalliance.org for Psalm tune helps.

Trust in the LORD with all your best and lean not on your own understanding in all your ways acknowledge him, and he will make your paths straight. [Proverbs 3:5-6]

#### Saturday - Proverbs 8:1-4 - Calling

We have said before that the Ultimate Wisdom is the Son of God. What does that mean? It means that if wisdom is knowing and doing what God says out of a heart of love for Him, who has done this better or more perfectly than Christ? He is the ultimate example of what it means to be wise. When we work to be wise, we are working to be like Christ. To follow after Christ is to follow after wisdom. So, when we read verses like these, where Wisdom is calling out, it's as if our Lord Jesus Christ is calling out.

Wisdom cries out to mankind, not in dark secret places, but right out in the open for everyone to hear. Everyone knows there is a God because God has implanted that knowledge in their heart. They may hide it or deny it, but it's there. But even beyond this, God tells us about Himself in creation. By looking at the world around us, we can learn about God. God also tells us more clearly and specifically about Himself in the Bible. It is the job of God's people to make God's Word well-known among men. Jesus Christ, Wisdom Himself, calls out to men through their hearts, through His world, and through the Bible.

This call is loud and persevering. Why? Because men and women are in danger. They are in danger of the wrath and judgement of God. They are in danger of a lost eternity, and they must be warned - loudly, clearly, and continually. If someone was in a burning building, we would not be content to say "fire" then walk away. No, we'd be shouting at the top of our lungs, over and over, to warn them. But how quiet we are, how quick to give up, when it comes to warning those we love, to taking opportunities to speak to them about Christ, to asking them over and over to come to church where they can hear God's Word being preached.

#### Questions

1. How does God call out to men and women?

2. How can we be used by God in calling out to men and women?

#### **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**

For the commandment is a lamp and the teaching a light, and the reproofs of discipline are the way of life, Proverbs 6:23

Praise: Psalm 42 - 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.

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