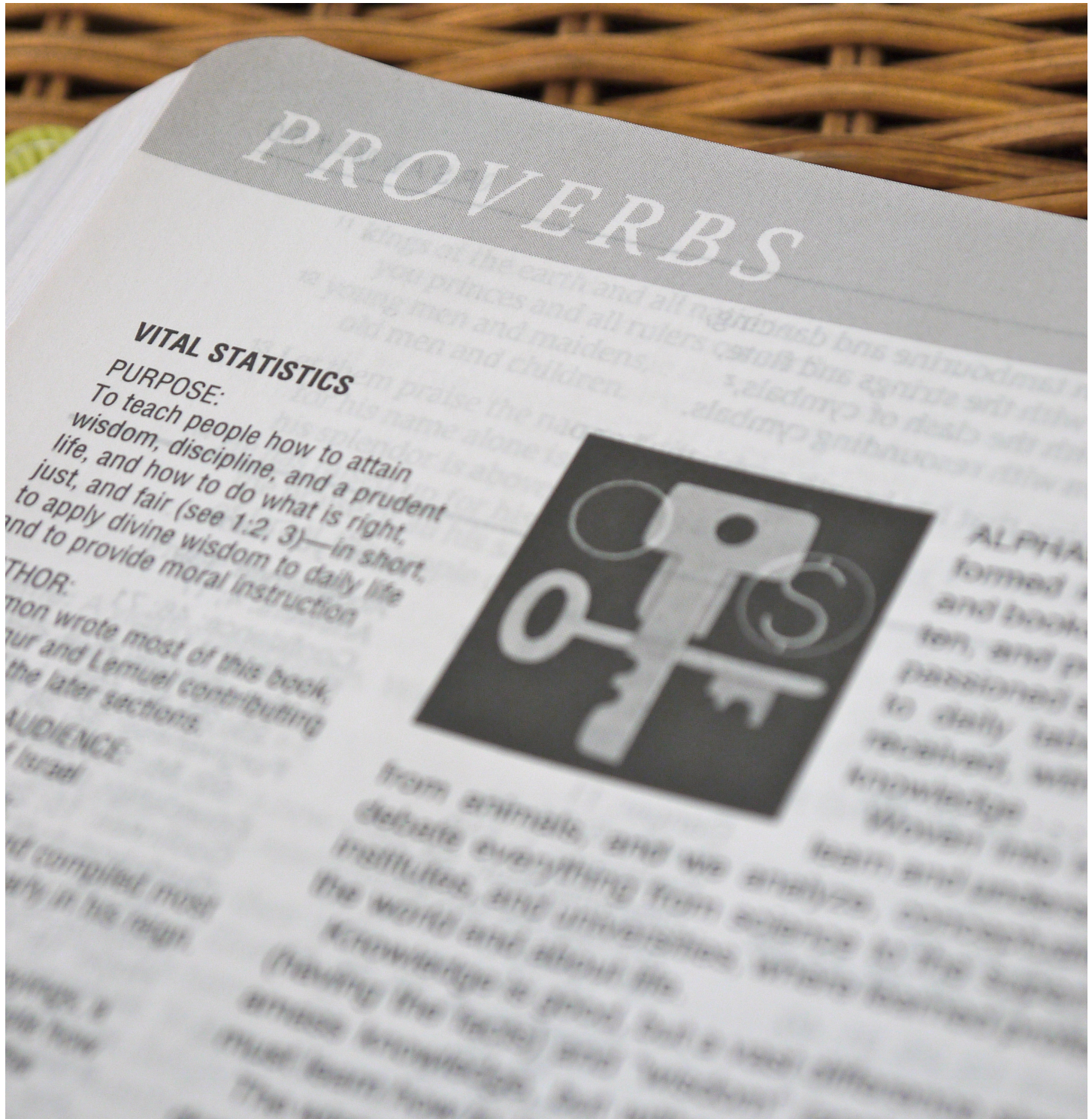


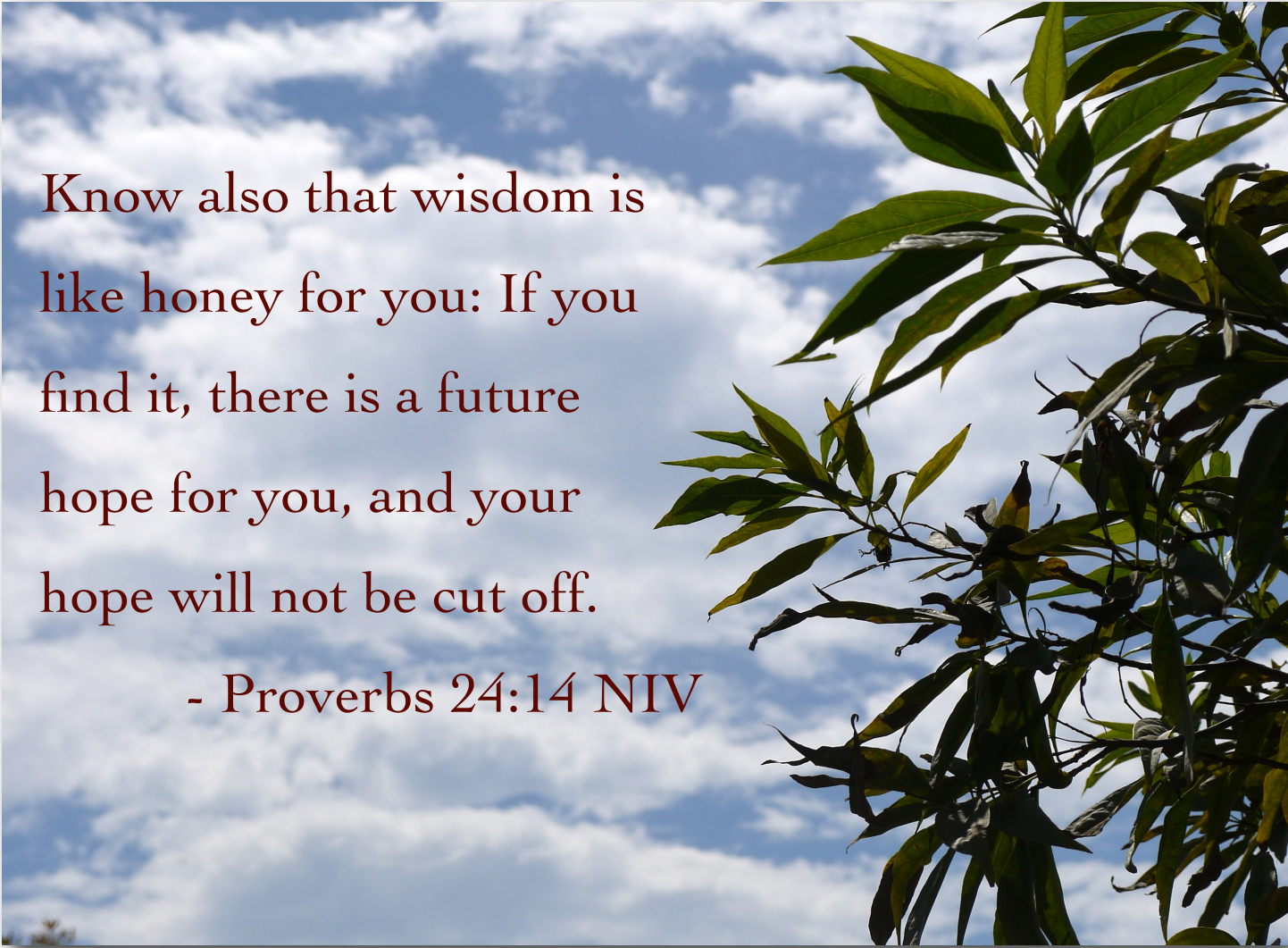
# PROVERBS *Point*

A Book of Prayers  
Highlighting My Favorite Verses  
from Proverbs



by Raye Wortel

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Know also that wisdom is  
like honey for you: If you  
find it, there is a future  
hope for you, and your  
hope will not be cut off.

- Proverbs 24:14 NIV

# Introduction

Proverbs Point came out of my desire to simply have more wisdom in my life. As a parent, wife, ministry leader, and friend, I felt a lot of my daily decisions lacked the kind of godly wisdom the Lord wanted me to have. So I decided to spend some time rummaging around the book of Proverbs really trying to understand what wisdom means, how to gain it, and what value God places on it.



This book is just a small sampling of the treasures I found among its pages. I wholeheartedly encourage you to read Proverbs for yourself, and find what speaks to your heart.

“By wisdom the Lord founded the earth; by understanding he created the heavens.” (Prov 3:19). If the Lord used wisdom as His foundation when creating the earth, shouldn’t we do the same when we are building our home, our family, and our life? The Bible tells us that wisdom will save us (Prov 2:12), protect and guard us (Prov 4:6), and bring us joy (Prov 3:13). It’s also more precious than gold (Prov 16:16) and more valuable than rubies (Prov 8:11). When wisdom and understanding become an integral part of our daily living, God tells us we are rewarded with a long life (Prov 9:11), respect (Prov 19:11), sensibility (Prov 17:24), safety (Prov 28:26), and a bright future (Prov 24:14) filled with HOPE! I like the sound of that, don’t you?

*All verses are from the New Living Translation (NLT) unless otherwise noted.*

*In him lie hidden all the treasures  
of wisdom and knowledge.  
- Colossians 2:3*

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## Chapter 1

- ▶ “When they cry for help, I will not answer. Though they anxiously search for me, they will not find me. For they hated knowledge and chose not to fear the Lord.” - Proverbs 1:28-29
- ▶ “But all who listen to me will live in peace, untroubled by fear of harm.” - Proverbs 1:33

### Prayer Point

Lord, please give us a yearning heart for Your knowledge. We never want to grieve the Holy Spirit by not having a healthy fear of You. Help us to slow down and listen to Your leading, so that we can live in peace - free from harm. Amen.

## Chapter 2

- ▶ “Tune your ears to wisdom, and concentrate on understanding. Cry out for insight and understanding.” - Proverbs 2:2-3
- ▶ “For the LORD grants wisdom! From his mouth come knowledge and understanding.”  
- Proverbs 2:6

### Prayer Point

Before the way goes wrong, and the path gets muddied; guide us with wisdom and understanding. When darkness falls, and the storms brew; let us cry first for insight. What a gift You give in wisdom! Granted without strings, and freely offered to hearts fixed on living Your way. Amen.

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## Chapter 3

- ▶ “Never let loyalty and kindness get away from you! Wear them like a necklace; write them deep within your heart.” - Proverbs 3:3
- ▶ “My child, don’t reject the Lord’s discipline, and don’t be upset when he corrects you. For the Lord corrects those he loves, just as a father corrects a child in whom he delights. - Proverbs 3:11-12

### Prayer Point

God, forgive us when we toss away loyalty and kindness for a fleeting token of recognition or praise. Adorn us with jewels of honor and good will that withstand earthly desires. Sustain us in the face of Your discipline. Help us to understand that accepting heavenly correction brings forth growth and life. Amen.

## Chapter 4

- ▶ “My child, listen to me and do as I say, and you will have a long, good life. I will teach you wisdom’s ways and lead you in straight paths. When you walk, you won’t be held back; when you run, you won’t stumble. Take hold of my instructions; don’t let them go. Guard them, for they are the key to life.” - Proverbs 4:10-13

### Prayer Point

You offer us the key to life. Oh, that we may have enough wisdom to grasp for it! Lord, increase our understanding, expand our knowledge, and multiply our ability to comprehend the richness You promise for those who choose to walk the path of wisdom. Amen.

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## Chapter 5

- ▶ “For the LORD sees clearly what a man does. examining every path he takes. An evil man is held captive by his own sins; they are ropes that catch and hold him. He will die for lack of self- control; he will be lost because of his incredible folly.” - Proverbs 5:21-23

### Prayer Point

We may yearn for foolish ways; but You see. We may desire a shorter path; but You know. Thank you for Your vastness! Guard us Lord, and give us wisdom. Keep us far from the choking binds of sin, giving us a disposition of self-control, prudence, and good sense. Amen.

## Chapter 6

- ▶ “There are six things the LORD hates - no, seven things he detests: haughty eyes, a lying tongue, hands that kill the innocent, a heart that plots evil, feet that race to do wrong, a false witness who pours out lies, a person who sows discord among brothers.  
- Proverbs 6:16-19

### Prayer Point

God, take us far away from all You detest. Offer us clarity when we begin to move towards them. From head-to-toe we are capable of such blackness! Give us new eyes, a new tongue, new hands, a new heart, and new feet that bring about life and peace always. Amen.

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## Chapter 7

- ▶ “Follow my advice, my son; always treasure my commands. Obey them and live! Guard my teachings as your most precious possession. - Proverbs 7:1-2
- ▶ “Love wisdom like a sister; make insight a beloved member of your family.” - Proverbs 7:4

### Prayer Point

What do we hold most dear? What fills us completely? What is our deepest treasure? Let it be the teachings of our Lord! Like family gathered around the dinner table, may we gather around insight and wisdom, welcoming them into every aspect of our lives. Amen.



*Patience is the companion of wisdom.*

*- Saint Augustine*

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## Chapter 8

- ▶ “My advice is wholesome and good. There is nothing crooked or twisted in it. My words are plain to anyone with understanding, clear to those who want to learn.” - Proverbs 8:8-9
- ▶ “I love all who love me. Those who search for me will surely find me.” - Proverbs 8:17

### Prayer Point

Steadfast, straight, and clear - those are Your words, Lord. Thank you for the Holy Spirit who counsels with wholesomeness and goodness; giving us a trustworthy place to rest. Your unmerited love is precious and full of grace. We praise You for being a God that longs to be found. Amen.



## Chapter 9

- ▶ “Leave your foolish ways behind, and begin to live; learn how to be wise.” - Proverbs 9:6
- ▶ “Wisdom will multiply your days and add years to your life.” - Proverbs 9:11

### Prayer Point

Lord, let wisdom be the song in our heart, the air that we breath, and the dance that we dance! Give us a life free from foolishness, so that our days are many, and our years are long. Amen.

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## Chapter 10

- ▶ “Don’t talk too much, for it fosters sin, Be sensible and turn off the flow!” - Proverbs 10:19
- ▶ “The blessings of the LORD makes a person rich, and he adds no sorrow with it.” - Proverbs 10:22

### Prayer Point

Lord, You gave us two ears and one mouth for a reason. Impart on us the wisdom of silence. Teach us to speak thoughtfully, weighing quality over quantity. Thank you God, for the abundant blessings You shower Your children with - fully knowing that Your gifts hold no regrets. Amen.

## Chapter 11

- ▶ “Your own soul is nourished when you are kind, but you destroy yourself when you are cruel.”  
- Proverbs 11:17
- ▶ “The generous prosper and are satisfied; those who refresh others will themselves be refreshed.”  
- Proverbs 11:25

### Prayer Point

God, forgive us of our cruelty. Infuse us with a spirit of gentleness that transcends our circumstances. May we understand, even in the heat of the moment, that our wickedness destroys us. Give us a generous heart that blesses, and refreshes the receiver - and the giver. Amen.

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## Chapter 12

- ▶ “To learn, you must love discipline; it is stupid to hate correction.” - Proverbs 12:1
- ▶ “Wickedness never brings stability; only the godly have deep roots.” - Proverbs 12:3

### Prayer Point

Like toddlers, we whine when we feel the heaviness of Your correction. Help us learn to love Your righteous discipline. Growing and stretching us into souls with stable and deep roots that can weather darkness, deserts, and storms. Amen.

## Chapter 13

- ▶ “Hope deferred makes the heart sick, but when dreams come true, there is life and joy.”  
- Proverbs 13:12
- ▶ “An unreliable messenger stumbles into trouble, but a reliable messenger brings healing.”  
- Proverbs 13:17

### Prayer Point

Grasp us, Lord and shake us free from our slumber! Reveal Your hope, peace, and joy to us as we learn to trust in You. Let us not spend one more day ignorant of Your great hope! And when we speak of You and what You’ve done, may it be with reliability and honesty. Amen.



*No man was ever wise by chance.*

*- Seneca*

## Chapter 14

- ▶ “Fools make fun of guilt, but the godly acknowledge it and seek reconciliation.” - Proverbs 14:9
- ▶ “Fear of the LORD is a life-giving fountain; it offers escape from the snares of death.” - Proverbs 14:27

### Prayer Point

Lord, imprint on our hearts the proper fear we should have for You. Protect us from the snares of death that separate us from Your holiness. Give us courage to face our inequity, and seek reconciliation, so that we can be free from the bondage of sin. Amen.

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## Chapter 15

- ▶ “Plans go wrong for lack of advice; many counselors bring success.” - Proverbs 15:22
- ▶ “Everyone enjoys a fitting reply; it is wonderful to say the right thing at the right time!” - Proverbs 15:23

### Prayer Point

God, retract our stubbornness towards making plans without wise counsel. Teach us the importance of sharing our plans, and soliciting godly advice, and when we are asked to respond in kind, make wisdom and righteousness flow from our lips. Amen.

## Chapter 16

- ▶ “We can gather our thoughts, but the LORD gives the right answers.” - Proverbs 16:1
- ▶ “Commit your work to the LORD, and then your plans will succeed.” - Proverbs 16:3

### Prayer Point

Your ways are higher and greater, Lord! Bind us up as we commit all that we have, all that we are, and all of our plans, hopes, and dreams to You. For when we do, we will see success, prosperity, and purpose beyond our imaginations! Amen.

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## Chapter 17

- ▶ “Disregarding another’s faults preserves love; telling about them separates close friends.”  
- Proverbs 17:9
- ▶ “A truly wise person uses few words; a person with understanding is even-tempered.”  
- Proverbs 17:27

### Prayer Point

Oh, how we run at the mouth, God! Give us a spirit of love that looks beyond the faults of those we love. Let gentleness come over us in the friendships You’ve gifted - coming shoulder-to-shoulder, and not mouth-to-ear. Amen.

## Chapter 18

- ▶ “A person’s words can be life-giving water; words of true wisdom are as refreshing as a bubbling brook.” - Proverbs 18:4
- ▶ “The name of the LORD is a strong fortress; the godly run to him and are safe.” - Proverbs 18:10

### Prayer Point

God, may our mouths be a source of life - pouring forth compassion, grace, mercy, and hope. Show us how to refresh others with our words, so that we in turn, can experience refreshment. Protect us as we hide in the shadow of Your mighty fortress, knowing Your outstretched arms are our shield. Amen.

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## Chapter 19

- ▶ "People ruin their own lives by their foolishness and then are angry at the Lord." - Proverbs 19:3
- ▶ "You can make many plans, but the Lord's purpose will prevail." - Proverbs 19:21

### Prayer Point

God, forgive our groaning towards You when our own foolishness gets us into trouble. Teach us to take responsibility for the life you’ve given us. Make us wise to know that Your will is perfect and permanent. Give us humility, and courage to yield to Your greatness. Amen.

## Chapter 20

- ▶ "How can we understand the road we travel? It is the LORD who directs our steps." - Proverbs 20:24
- ▶ "The LORD'S searchlight penetrates the human spirit, exposing every hidden motive." - Proverbs 20:27

### Prayer Point

Lord, thank you for directing our steps. May we never believe we can travel this road without You. Give us strength to allow Your holy searchlight to bring forth all that is not of You, and cleanse us through Your abundant grace. Amen.

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## Chapter 21

- ▶ "The Lord is more pleased when we do what is just and right than when we give him sacrifices." - Proverbs 21:3
- ▶ "Whoever pursues godliness and unfailing love will find life, godliness, and honor." - Proverbs 21:21

### Prayer Point

Lord, teach us how to do what is right and just with Your disposition in mind. Thank you for Your grace as we pursue a life of godliness and unfailing love. Give us persistence to strive for that which brings honor and life. Amen.

## Chapter 22

- ▶ "True humility and fear of the Lord lead to riches, honor, and long life." - Proverbs 22:4
- ▶ "Anyone who loves a pure heart and gracious speech is the king's friend." - Proverbs 22:11

### Prayer Point

Heavenly Father, thank you for your abundant promises. Teach us how to cultivate a pure heart of true humility in our daily lives. Give us a heart, mind, and mouth centered on graciousness even when we are challenged in difficult times. Amen.



*Never does nature say one thing and wisdom another.*

*-Juvenal, Satires*



## Chapter 23

- ▶ "My child, how I will rejoice if you become wise. Yes, my heart will thrill when you speak what is right and just." - Proverbs 23:15
- ▶ "O my son, give me your heart. May your eyes delight in my ways of wisdom." - Proverbs 23:26

### Prayer Point

Lord, how amazing to know I can thrill Your heart with righteous speech! Shower me with Your wisdom! Rejoice God, as I give You my heart, and lift my eyes heavenward to delight in Your wise and wondrous ways! Amen.

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## Chapter 24

- ▶ "Don't try to avoid responsibility by saying you didn't know about it. For God knows all hearts, and he sees you. He keeps watch over your soul, and he knows you knew! And he will judge all people according to what they have done." - Proverbs 24:12

### Prayer Point

Lord, forgive us when we try to pass off our bad behavior like dust bunnies swept under a rug. Thank you for being our powerful God who sees and knows all. Have mercy on us as we seek your forgiveness, and learn to live without pretending our hearts are hidden from you. Amen.

## Chapter 25

- ▶ "Singing cheerful songs to a person whose heart is heavy is as bad as stealing someone's jacket in cold weather or rubbing salt in a wound." - Proverbs 25:20

### Prayer Point

Lord, we often want to rescue others from trials, and help them move quickly through their suffering - especially our loved ones. Help us to step back and allow Your refining fire to do the ministering. May we learn that simply our presence may be all that is required. Amen.

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## Chapter 26

- ▶ "There is more hope for fools than for people who think they are wise." - Proverbs 26:12
- ▶ "Fire goes out for lack of fuel, and quarrels disappear when gossip stops." - Proverbs 26:20

### Prayer Point

God, remind us in Your mercy to never think ourselves wise in our own eyes. We are thankful that even though we may act foolishly at times, there is still hope for us when we seek Your wisdom and not our own. Shower us with heaven-sent rain to put out our "fiery" dispositions, so that we can sow peace with those around us. Amen.

## Chapter 27

- ▶ "As iron sharpens iron, a friend sharpens a friend." - Proverbs 27:17
- ▶ "As a face is reflected in water, so the heart reflects the person." - Proverbs 27:19

### Prayer Point

Lord, thank you for the dear friends You have placed in our lives. Teach us how to be friends worth having, and give us the courage to sharpen and be sharpened within that friendship. Purify our hearts God, and work in us a beauty and handsomeness that let's all know You are our Savior. Amen.

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## Chapter 28

- ▶ "People who cover over their sins will not prosper. But if they confess and forsake them, they will receive mercy." - Proverbs 28:13
- ▶ "Trusting in oneself is foolish, but those who walk in wisdom are safe." - Proverbs 28:26

### Prayer Point

Lord, why do we cover over our sins? Will we not remember that You see straight through us? Thank you for being a huge God that not only sees and knows all, but is abundant in mercy. Give us courage to act wisely, confess our sins, and forsake them to live in Your amazing freedom! Amen.

## Chapter 29

- ▶ "When people do not accept divine guidance, they run wild. But whoever obeys the law is happy."  
- Proverbs 29:18
- ▶ "Fearing people is a dangerous trap, but to trust the LORD means safety." - Proverbs 29:25

### Prayer Point

God, teach us not be like undisciplined children running wild with our own desires. Give us courage to yield to Your divine guidance; to trust and be safe in You, and not fear what impressions we're making to others. Amen.

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## Chapter 30

- ▶ "Every word of God proves true. He defends all who come to him for protection." - Proverbs 30:5
- ▶ "Do not add to his word, or he may rebuke you, and you will be found a liar. - Proverbs 30:6

### Prayer Point

A thriving confidence - Lord, that is what we have in Your Word which always proves true. In days of so much uncertainty, we are grateful we can turn to You and Your Word for the kind of protection, strength and direction that stands eternal. Humble us God, that we may never think ourselves grander than Your Holy Word. Amen.

## Chapter 31

▶ “She is clothed with strength and dignity, and she laughs with no fear of the future.”

- Proverbs 31:25

▶ “Reward her for all she has done. Let her deeds publicly declare her praise.” - Proverbs 31:31

### Prayer Point

We praise You, Lord for the gift of womanhood, and how you tenderly clothe us in strength and dignity. Your promises and grace shield us from fear, so that we can live in certainty of our future. Thank you for rewarding the work of our hands. May all that we are exalt You always! Amen.



*A wise person knows that there is something to be learned from everyone.*

*- Unknown*

## Resources

Here are some helpful resources for digging into Proverbs more deeply, and for creating more wisdom in your life, and your families life.

- ▶ Biblegateway.com, [Read the Book of Proverbs online](#)
- ▶ Lydia Brownback, [A Woman's Wisdom: How the Book of Proverbs Speaks to Everything](#) (Wheaton: Crossway, 2012)
- ▶ Vern Herschberger, [The Proverbs Project: An Illustrated Journey Through the Book of Proverbs](#) (Tate Publishing & Enterprises, 2011)
- ▶ Kathryn C Lang, [Practical Proverbs](#) (Peculiar Productions at Smashwords, 2011)
- ▶ Vicki Courtney, [Between God and Me: A Journey Through Proverbs](#) (Nashville: B&H Publishing Group, 2010) (*for tween girls*)
- ▶ John Mason, [Proverbs Prayers](#) (Minneapolis: Summerside Press, 2012)
- ▶ Pat Williams, [The Leadership Wisdom of Solomon: 28 Essential Strategies for Leading with Integrity](#) (Cincinnati: Standard Publishing, 2010)
- ▶ Henri Nouwen, [Spiritual Direction: Wisdom for the Long Walk of Faith](#) (New York: Harper One, 2006)

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# Notes

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