

PROVERBS QUIZ

Proverbs uses a lot of metaphors. Look up each metaphor and write the letter that corresponds to what it is talking about.

- _____ 1. A cool day in the hot summertime (25:13)
_____ 2. Chewing with a sore tooth (25:19)
_____ 3. A cloud blowing over the desert without dropping any rain (25:14)
_____ 4. A city with broken down walls (25:28)
_____ 5. Yanking a dog's ears (26:17)
_____ 6. Sparks that fly when iron strikes iron (27:17)
_____ 7. Honey (16:24)
_____ 8. A polluted source of drinking water (25:26)
_____ 9. A dog that returns to his vomit (26:11)
_____ 10. A dam about to overflow (17:14)
- a. Kind words
b. A fool that repeats his folly
c. A faithful employee
d. Interfering in an argument that's not your business
e. A stimulating discussion between friends
f. Starting a quarrel
g. A good man who compromises with a wicked one
h. A man without self-control
i. A person who doesn't give the gift he promised
j. Confiding in an unreliable person
5. Many people want to figure out life in order to get ahead and succeed. How could you use Proverbs as a bridge when talking with a friend or neighbor about true success in life?

Wisdom: Living Life as God Designed

Proverbs Intro

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Knowledge is equated with information delivered by technology.

Knowledge doubled every **100** years before 1900.

25 years after WW2

10 years since 1980

Clinical knowledge is currently doubling every **18** months.

A new medical journal article is published every **26 seconds**

YouTube, Twitter, Facebook have billions of daily views/posts

In this frantic, frenzied quest to double our knowledge, what are we leaving behind? What are we forgetting? What are we dismissing as archaic, no longer necessary, unneeded, or outdated?

[<http://mobile.wnd.com/2016/05/is-knowledge-doubling-or-halving/#f7f1CJVC71s3jCC.99>]

We need to read Proverbs (1:1-7)

Insight—distinguishing
between truth and error;
seeing the differences

Discipline—**training**
in moral instruction; taking note
of consequences to avoid folly

Wisdom—mastery or **skill**
that results in a life of lasting value;
Wisdom is to be prized and pursued

Prudence—being
shrewd or clever; crafty
in a good and positive way

Discretion—**choosing**
the best course of action and
following it to a moral ending

Also *learning, guidance, counsel, understanding, competence, resourcefulness, and heroic strength* (see also 2:1-4; 8:12-14)

Wisdom literature is **reflecting** on life as God sees it

Proverbs—the living of life as **designed** by God

Ecclesiastes—the **value** of life as determined by God

Job—the trials of life as **directed** by God

The structure of Proverbs (in six collections)

- I. A father and mother praise wisdom to their son (1:8 to 9:18)
- II. Solomon's proverbs (10:1 to 22:16)
- III. Sayings of the wise (22:17 to 24:34)
- IV. More of Solomon's proverbs (25:1 to 29:27)
- V. Sayings of Agur (30:1-33)
- VI. Sayings of Lemuel (31:1-31)

Key verse: Proverbs 9:10

*The fear of the LORD is the beginning of wisdom,
and knowledge of the Holy One is understanding.*

Some things to remember when you are reading proverbs

Many proverbs are written as **poetry**, often couplets

A proverb explains what is **good**, not guaranteed (18:22)

A proverb makes observations, **allows** exceptions (22:6)

All proverbs on a **topic** should be read together (26:4-5)

A proverb uses metaphor, **simile**, personification (25:11)

A proverb may be a command or promise, not **usually**

“Do not move a boundary marker” (22:28)

“Blessed is the man who always fears the LORD” (28:14)

Life Group Homework

1. What is one thing you want to learn from studying Proverbs?
2. If you have a favorite proverb in the Bible, share it and tell why
3. What makes the book of Proverbs different from other folksy sayings like, “A stitch in time saves nine” or “A rolling stone gathers no moss” or “A fool and his money are soon parted?”
4. Read Proverbs 2:1-5. What is the son to do (specific actions) in order to “understand the fear of the LORD and find the knowledge of God?”

2:1

2:2

2:3

2:4

Does this change how you will read Proverbs in particular and the Bible in general? Explain.