



A Father's Gift

- Kenneth B. Wingate

PROVERBS

- ◆ Solomon (wrote many; compiled others); Agur & King Lemuel, Chapters 30 and 31 respectively.
- ◆ Part of Wisdom Literature (Job, Proverbs, Ecclesiastes)
- ◆ 1:1-7 states clear purpose of Proverbs (Leader(s) and members should make this their personal prayer for entire study)

- ◆ 31 Chapters
- ◆ Ch. 1-9: The Call, Value, Blessings of the Way of Wisdom
- ◆ Ch. 10-22:16 Proverbs of Solomon
- ◆ Ch. 22:17-24:34 Words/Sayings of the Wise
- ◆ Ch 25:1-29:27 More Proverbs of Solomon
- ◆ Ch. 30:1-33 Words of Agur
- ◆ Ch. 31:1-31 Words of King Lemuel

KEYWORDS AND PHRASES

- Wisdom
- Wise
- Righteous/
Righteousness
- Guidance
- Fear of the Lord
- Knowledge
- Understanding
- Instruction
- My son(s)
- Discipline
- Command/
commandment
- Tongue
- Fool
- Evil
- Wicked
- Life

STUDY ONE -

Ch. 1 Abundant Life & Ch. 2 Wealth

KEY PRINCIPLE 1: The 'fear of the Lord is the first step on the
to abundant life.

KEY PRINCIPLE 2: God honors those who honor Him with
their wealth

READ: Chapters 1 and 2, pgs. 1-31; answer questions
for both chapters.

- ◆ Scripture needs to melt in your heart, not in your head!
- ◆ Hold material things lightly and live generously!

STUDY 2 - Friends and Neighbors

KEY PRINCIPLE: We become like the people with whom we spend most of our time.

READ: Chapter 3, pgs. 33-46; answer questions

- ◆ Importance of choice of friends and being a friend
- ◆ Our relationship with our neighbor is sacred.

STUDY 3 - Words

KEY PRINCIPLE: Speak only the F.A.C.T.S. - Let your words be Few, Apt, Calm, True, and Sweet

READ: Chapter 4, pgs. 47-58; answer questions

- ◆ Our words can be life-enhancing or life-destroying
- ◆ Proverbs pictures a person whose speech is consistently pure.

STUDY 4 - Sexual Purity

KEY PRINCIPLE: Sexual sin destroys the soul, but sexual purity is a spring of life

READ: Ch. 5, pgs. 59-72, answer questions

- ◆ The goal of marriage is oneness and intended to be a reflection of the oneness of the Trinity.
- ◆ Sexual relations are reserved exclusively for life-long commitment between a man and a woman within the marriage covenant.

STUDY 5 - Work

KEY PRINCIPLE: All lawful employments honor the Lord and dignify man.

READ: Ch. 6, pgs. 73-84; answer questions

- ◆ No job, done diligently and for the genuine service of God and others will go unnoticed.
- ◆ Success is faithfully doing to completion whatever God has called me to do.

STUDY 6 - Self-Control

KEY PRINCIPLE: Self-control is the grace of inner-strength, enabling us to do, say, and think that which pleases God. Our spirit must rule over our body.

READ: Chapter 7, pgs. 85-96; answer questions

- ◆ Self-control must be exercised in every area and aspect of our lives.

STUDY 7 - Guidance

KEY PRINCIPLE: The Lord guides us by the principles revealed in His Word, by the provision or withholding of resources, by the counsel of others, and by the sanctified desires of our hearts.

READ: Ch. 8, pgs. 97-102; answer questions

- ◆ The Lord has not left His children to stumble along in the dark.
- ◆ Best way to receive guidance is to know the mind of the guide!

STUDY 8 - Pride

KEY PRINCIPLE: Self-praise, whether spoken or unspoken,
stinks

READ: Ch. 9, pgs. 103-109; answer questions

- ◆ Pride is most destructive of all deadly sins.
- ◆ Pride is a symptom of spiritual blindness.

STUDY 9 - Health

KEY PRINCIPLE: Godly living is good for the body and soul.

READ: Ch. 10, pgs. 111-116, answer questions

- ◆ Righteous living enhances life.
- ◆ The guilt of sin breaks one's bones.

STUDY 10 - Kindness and Mercy

KEY PRINCIPLE: Kindness is a genuine desire for the well-being of others, expressed in our words and actions.

READ: Ch. 11, pgs. 117-121, answer questions

- ◆ The righteous treat others with the same kindness and compassion they have received from the Lord.

STUDY II - Justice and Equity

KEY PRINCIPLE: Justice demands that we speak for the poor, the defenseless, and the oppressed.

READ: Ch. 12, pgs. 123-129; answer questions

- ◆ God places a high premium on justice - in the market, the court, and community.
- ◆ We must pursue justice because God is just.

STUDY 12 - Authority and Leadership

KEY PRINCIPLE: God places authorities over us in all areas of life to protect, and guide us. Respect all authority in government, family, employment and church.

READ: Ch. 13, pgs. 131-139; answer questions

- ◆ As the shepherd goes, so goes the flock!
- ◆ A wise leader surrounds themselves with the right kind of advisors.

STUDY 13 - Husband and Father

KEY PRINCIPLE: A wise man is a faithful companion to his wife and a diligent mentor to his children.

READ: Ch. 14, pgs. 141-153; answer questions

- ◆ A godly husband not only appreciates his wife's virtues, but speaks up and sings her praises!
- ◆ Proverbs gives fathers a comprehensive job description.

STUDY 14 - Wife and Mother

KEY PRINCIPLE: A wise woman builds her home, knowing it yields eternal blessings for herself and her family.

READ: Ch. 15, pgs. 155-163, answer questions

- A godly wife's relationship with God is her first priority.
- A wise mother views her children, not food or chores, as the project in hand

STUDY 15 - Wickedness and Evil

KEY PRINCIPLE: Those who do evil (any act or intention to harm another's person, property or name) will suffer evil.

READ: Ch. 16, pgs. 165-172; answer questions

- The Hebrew word 'evil' used in Proverbs conveys the idea of something spoiled or rotten. It appears nearly 100 times in Proverbs!
- Choose wisely!

STUDY 16 - The Future

KEY PRINCIPLE: Smile at the future - we do not know what it holds, but we know who holds it.

READ: Ch. 17, pgs. 173-180; answer questions

- Life is a journey and Proverbs gives us basic rules for the road.
- The future is secure for those who are walking with the Lord.

STUDY 17 - The Lord

KEY PRINCIPLE: God sees everything I do.

READ: Ch. 18, pgs. 181-192; answer questions

- Those who walk in His ways are blessed.
- Those who walk in their own ways are cursed.
- Choose wisely!

APPENDIX I
Key Principles for Abundant Living

APPENDIX 2
Proverbs by Subject
(Scripture references for each Subject)

SUGGESTED
10 LESSON STUDY

Chapters from 'A Father's Gift':

1 & 2 (already combined); 3; 4; 5 & 7; 6; 8, 9, & 10;
11 & 12; 13, 14, & 15; 16; 17 & 18