AMEN Bible Study Fall 2026
"To Everyone, Everywhere, thru Everything"

Proverbs 8:1-36
September 24, 2026

Introduction

I. Wisdom Keeps Calling to Everyone (v.1-11)

A. She Just Keeps CALLING (v.1-5)

1. Repeatedly (v.1; cf. ch.1-7)
2. Even after Failure (ch.7)
3. She Cries Out Everywhere (v.2-3)
4. To Everyone (v.4-5)
    a. "O Men" –
    b. "O Simple Ones" – too naïve, too impressionable,
    c. "O Fools" – thickheaded, stubborn, unteachable

B. We're to Keep HEARING (v. 6-9) ("*Hear*…")

1. "Noble things" – royal, dignified humanness (v.6)
2. "What Is Right" – as created to be (v.6)
3. "True" – as God knows things to be (v.7)
4. "Nothing Twisted" – as designed to be (v.7)
5. HOW We Hear Reflects WHO We Are (v.9)

C. We're to Keep Taking Hold of (v.10-11) ("*Take [hold of]* …")

1. As finding the Pearl of Great Price (Mt. 13:45-46)

II. Wisdom Is Useful EVERYWHERE (v.12-21)

A. Useful In Matters of Life & Death (v.12-14)

1. "Prudence" – a biblical realism (v.12) (cf. 27:12)
2. "Discretion" – able to discern a/the path forward (v.12)
3. Reorders Fears, Loves, Hates (v.13; cf. 1:7)
4. It Reorders Plans & Strategies (war?) (v.14; cf.24:6)

B. In Everyday Governance and Order (v.15-16)

1. Righteousness & Justice – the only solid foundation (e.g. 16:12; cf. Ps. 82)
2. Ray Ortlund: "Even in the tough world of human leadership, Christ … knows his way around hardheaded deals and aggressive negotiations." (*Proverbs*; e.g. Pr. 20:14)

C. Wisdom's Bounty Offered Everywhere (v.17-21) *("I love those who love me…")*

1. Backdrop: False Love of the Adulterous (ch. 7)
2. Wisdom: "I'm the real deal" (v.17)
3. Heaped-Up Words of Bounty (v.18-21)

III. Wisdom Laces EVERYTHING (v.22-31)

A. Flow/Message of This Stanza

1. Wisdom Precedes Creation (v.22-26)
2. Wisdom Is Active in Creating (v.27-29)
3. God & Wisdom Rejoice in Creation (v.30-31)

B. Significance of this Stanza

1. The Creation is NOT just "raw material" to be Exploited
2. This IS "Our Father's World"
3. Wisdom is found in Creation as Created
    a. the Ant (6:6-8)
    b. the Stomach/Body (25:16-17)
    c. the Garden/Farm (24:30-34; 28:19)
    d. a Dog (26:11)
    e. Tools (27:17)
    f. the Metalsmith (27:21)
    g. the Leech (30:15)
    h. Small-but-Wise Animals (30:24-28)
    i. Mysteries of Creation (30:18-19)
4. All Truth is God's Truth (Proverbs collects wisdom from secular, global sources)

C. Qualification: Creation is also Fallen

1. "Red in tooth and Claw" – (Tennyson poem)
2. "Survival of the Fittest" –
3. The Created World has four dimensions
    a. Creation – All Creation is GOOD
    b. Fall – All Creation is CORRUPTED
    c. Redemption – All Creation is REDEEMABLE
    d. Glory – Creation will be Re-Created

Conclusion – What Say Ye? (v.32-36)

A. Life?

B. Death?

AMEN Action Steps

"To Everyone, Everywhere, thru Everything"

Proverbs 8:1-36

HEAR the Word

"Open my eyes, that I might behold wondrous things out of your law."
-Psalm 119:18

1. Per 8:2, describe moments which, in hindsight (if not in the moment!), were times when God's wisdom was calling and speaking to you in or through a business moment, a shopping experience, a sports story, a news story, etc.?

2. Per 8:9, Can you identify an occasion(s) when you, or someone you know, resisted God's wisdom for a time because a different path seemed much more intuitively right and best. How did you/they come around to embracing the truth?

PRACTICE the Word

"…Everyone who hears these words of mine and puts them into practice is like a wise man who built his house on a rock"
-Matthew 7:24

1. Be honest with yourself: just how heart-compelling is God's Kingdom and Word to you these days? What are tempted to give more of your heart attention to (hopes, fears, dreams, etc.)? What is easier to spend your money and time on? Why makes these so attractive to you?

2. Beyond those examples spoken in today's teaching, identify other ways that you see God's wisdom revealed and illustrated in and through the natural, created world.

RETELL the Word

"Go home to your own people and tell them how much the Lord has done for you…"
-Mark 5:19

1. Pastor George regularly says that many dismiss biblical wisdom by saying, "In the real world, that just doesn't work. It isn't realistic." But think of examples from your own life, business, etc. in which God's counter-intuitive wisdom proved more effective than so called "common sense."

2. Think of stories where Christians acted out of a counter-cultural, biblical wisdom and caught the admiring attention of unbelievers around them.