



### All-Church Devotions

You're invited to join Pastor Renner & First UMC Family in devotionally reading Proverbs throughout August. Pastor Renner will be following the pattern below and invites you to join him each day:

**Bring** our whole selves before God in prayer

**Grow** through reading & devotionals provided

**Serve** as God guides & directs throughout the day  
F.Y.I.: the Bible is meant to be heard even more than read. Biblegateway.com will allow you to read or listen to the passage & Bible version you choose.

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### August 7--Read Proverbs 7

--Once again while temptation is personified, Solomon's wisdom holds a broader meaning. II Timothy 2: 22 says it this way, "Flee also youthful lusts; but pursue righteousness, faith, love, peace with those who call on the Lord out of a pure heart."

--What 'safeguards' can you place in your life that reduce what is not good nor beneficial even if it appears inviting and seductive?

### August 8--Read Proverbs 8

(As you read today's chapter, remember that Hebrew poetry is not rhyming words, but "rhyming" thoughts. The same things is said two different ways.)

--Where is Wisdom found, and how do you go about discovering it?

--What are some advantages to gaining Wisdom?

--Many believe that 'newer' is better (and sometimes this is accurate). However, how old is Wisdom?

--What implications does this have in respecting one's elders?

### August 9--Read Proverbs 9

--Is anyone excluded from discovering Wisdom?

--What does a person's response to being correct have to do with being wise?

--Which food really tastes better...that which is eaten in secret or that which is eaten with friends? To what other aspects of life does this principle apply?

--How will you apply this Wisdom today?



### August 10--Read Proverbs 10

--Which verses struck you the most? Why?

--One's words seem to be a theme in this chapter. Verse 20 contrasts the "words of the godly" and the "heart of a fool." What connection is there between one's words and one's heart? (hint: Luke 6: 45)

--With verse 24 in mind, have you been living more out of fear or hope? What step(s) can you take to increase living with hope?

### August 11--Read Proverbs 11

--Which verses resonate most with you? Why?

--Which verses do you find most perplexing? How will you go about seeking clarity?

--Reread today's chapter and make a mental note of which sayings you may have heard said in a slightly different way over your life.

--What's your answer to the question raised in verse 31?

### August 12--Read Proverbs 12

"The old adage, 'It is better to give than to receive' does not seem to apply with respect to gaining wisdom."  
--Pastor Renner

--Which verses resonate most with you? Why?

--Which verses do you find most perplexing? How will you go about seeking clarity?

--How many of the 10 Commandments and/or the Beatitudes do you find rewarded in today's chapter? (Exodus 20...Matthew 5)

### August 13--Read Proverbs 13

--Which verses resonate most with you? Why?

--Which verses do you find most perplexing? How will you go about seeking clarity?

--What title would you give today's chapter? Why?

--What specific changes have you made this week because of reading chapters 7-13 of Proverbs?

--How will you continue to incorporate the wisdom being offered into your life?