

Proverbs Study Week 19

Proverbs 11:11-20

Join us this week as we begin Proverbs 11 and look at the contrast between the upright and the wicked. As we study verse by verse, ask yourself... who am I?

*****Read Proverbs 11:11-20*****

I love Proverbs 11 because it gives us 31 verses of practical wisdom. Most of the 31 verses demonstrate a contrast between righteous and wicked people. This contrast allows us to take a hard look at our lives and ask ourselves; am I righteous or wicked?

These verses force us to look at how we interact and deal with other people and whether we treat people fairly or not. So read each verse and let it hit you in the heart!

- **Think about your life, are you impacting those around you and in your sphere of influence? Have your words ever destroyed a relationship or damaged a situation?**

- **Proverbs 11:11**
 - When good things happen to good people it usually has a good effect on everybody around them. Think about those people in our lives who are not selfish, and seem to bring everybody into their lives and blessings. When good things happen to you, do you tend to be selfish or do you share God's blessings with others? Think about the resources you have, are you selfish with them or use them to bless others? Lastly, our words may not have the power to create anything, but they do have the power to influence others. Words can be so destructive, so use them wisely.
 - Proverbs 28:2
 - Proverbs 29:8
 - 2 Corinthians 9:7
 - Acts 20:35
 - 2 Corinthians 9:6

- **Proverbs 11:12**
 - How you treat your neighbor matters! A person who does not treat his neighbor well is a person who lacks wisdom. To grow in wisdom, is to grow in your ability to love and respect everybody around you... especially your neighbors. In our rage we often feel

justified to treat someone poorly, but this verse encourages us to keep quiet or hold our tongue. There is so much wisdom in being able to have control over your emotions and your tongue.

- Proverbs 14:21
- Mark 12:31
- Luke 6:27
- Romans 13:10
- 1 Corinthians 10:24
- Romans 15:2

- **Proverbs 11:13**

- One of the most destructive and harmful things to people is gossip. We all have had situations where we have either gossiped and hurt somebody or have been gossiped about and have been hurt. It is important that as followers of Jesus we are trustworthy and become people others can confide in. As we grow in wisdom we grow in our discernment on when to keep things private and not to share.

- **Have you ever been hurt by gossip or hurt others by gossip?**

- 1 Timothy 5:13
 - Leviticus 19:16
 - Proverbs 20:19
 - Ephesians 4:29
 - James 1:26

- **Proverbs 11:14**

- The mark of a good leader and a wise person is that they are surrounded by people who hold them accountable and give wise counsel. We must recognize that we all have blind spots in our lives, and many times we are oblivious to the areas that need the most growth.

- **Do you seek the wisdom and counsel of others? Do you listen to the hard truth and receive it and grow, or do you get defensive?**

- 2 Chronicles 22:4
 - Proverbs 15:22
 - Proverbs 20:18
 - Proverbs 24:6

- **Proverbs 11:15**

- Like we talked about in other weeks of this study, there is a lack of wisdom to take responsibility for a stranger's debts. If you want to help somebody out, gift them the money and be free from trouble.

There is wisdom and security in being responsible for your own debts. Focus on the things you have control over.

- Proverbs 17:18
- Proverbs 27:13

- **Proverbs 11:16**

- This verse speaks to both men and women and to the way we treat people. A person that is kind hearted and gracious, will earn the respect and honor of those around them. But those who are ruthless, may gain things, but their lives will be void of relationships.

- **How do you treat others? Are you gracious, what does that even mean? Is your pursuit of money and things hurting the relationships in your life?**

- Ephesians 4:31-32
- Matthew 7:12
- 1 Corinthians 13:4

- **Proverbs 11:17**

- This verse piggybacks off verse 16, and speaks to what the consequences are from how we treat others. The person who shows others mercy, will indeed be shown mercy when it is needed. The person who is cruel and shows no mercy will be treated the same when in time of trouble.

- Matthew 5:7
- Matthew 25:34
- 2 Samuel 22:26

- **Proverbs 11:18**

- When somebody is deceptive or dishonest in their work, it exposes their true wickedness. Our work must be completed with honesty, integrity and with joy! The righteous or godly work is like a seed planted in good soil, it will produce good things.

- **What do you think the reward is spoken about in this verse?**

- John 4:36
- Galatians 6:8
- James 3:18
- Exodus 1:20
- Hosea 10:12

- **Proverbs 11:19**

- Righteous or Godly people find life because they live life more fully every single day. Moreover, people usually live longer when they live life right, eat well, exercise and get good sleep. Godly people

also do not have the same fear of death looming over them because eternal life is God's amazing gift to them. In contrast, evil people not only find eternal death, they miss out on living life to its fullest!

- Romans 6:23
- James 1:15
- Proverbs 12:28
- Proverbs 21:16