

Proverbs Study Week 16

Proverbs 10:11-19

Join us this week as we continue in Proverbs 10 and study the proverbs of Solomon! Spend time this week reflecting on each proverb because they contain so much wisdom for our daily lives!

*****Read Proverbs 10:11-19*****

For most of us, we are able to communicate through words or some other type of technology. We must be intentional about the words we say, type or put out through other types of communication. Our words either bring life or death to the people around us. Now we are not talking about some New Age teaching where you are able to speak things or events into existence. What we are talking about is our words either reflect Jesus or the world. Our words have the power to reflect the good news of the Gospel.

- **Think about your week, were you intentional about the words you spoke? On average, do your words bring life or death? What does it mean that your words are a life giving fountain? Who do you need to speak life giving words to?**
 - Read the following verses and discuss how they relate to Proverbs 10:11
 - Psalm 37:30
 - Proverbs 18:21
 - Ephesians 4:29
 - James 1:19
 - Isaiah 55:11
 - Psalm 141:3
 - Matthew 12:36
 - Colossians 4:6

Read Proverbs 10:12

There is so much hate in the world today and it seems to have grown to a whole new level. Things like social media and the internet, have created the perfect environment for hatred to spread like wildfire. This verse is clear, hatred stirs up conflict. When we have hate in our hearts and lives, conflict will be all around us. We must be diligent

about removing the hate in our lives and forgive those who have sinned against us. We must be consumed with allowing God's love to permeate our most broken areas, so that we can love those around us.

- **Do you have hatred in your heart? Who do you need to forgive? Is your life marked with dissension, conflict or strife? Have you allowed God's love into your most broken areas?**

- Read the following verses and discuss how they relate to Proverbs 10:12
 - 1 Corinthians 13:4-7
 - James 5:20
 - 1 Peter 4:8
 - 1 John 4:19
 - John 3:16
 - Romans 5:8

Read Proverbs 10:13-17

As we have talked about for the last 15 weeks, wisdom is of absolute importance for our lives. I think we all know this, but we for sure do not all live like wisdom is that important. Verses 13-17 give us stark comparisons of the wise versus the fool. The fool's life is filled with turmoil, emotional hardship, physical issues and the ruins of a life slowly destroyed by poor decisions. Who are you?

- **Are you a wise person, why or why not? What does it mean to be a discerning person? Do you seek out and store up knowledge, if so, what kind of knowledge are you storing up? Look at verse 16, what does this mean?**

- Read the following verses and discuss how they relate
 - Psalm 37:30
 - Proverbs 26:3
 - Ecclesiasties 10:12
 - Psalm 52:7
 - Proverbs 6:23

Read Proverbs 10:18

By hating another person you are setting yourself up to become a liar or a fool. Think about it, if you try and hide your hatred for another person, you become a liar! If you

slander and harm another person's reputation and you are proven wrong, you are a fool. We must admit our feelings to God and repent of our hatred towards others. If you have hatred in your heart, ask God to heal and change your heart. Only God can turn your hate into love.

- **If you are struggling with hate in your heart, what steps will you take to forgive that person?**
 - Read the following verses and discuss how they relate
 - Exodus 23:1
 - Proverbs 26:24
 - Jeremiah 9:4
 - Ephesians 4:32
 - Matthew 6:14-15
 - Colossians 3:13
 - Luke 6:27
 - Romans 12:19
 - 1 John 1:19
 - 2 Chronicles 7:14

Read Proverbs 10:19

I resemble this Proverb... anybody else? There is something to be said about learning to speak less and listen more. When we close our mouth and open our ears, we give space to allow wisdom into our lives. Make a concerted effort in social situations to speak less and spend time listening to those around you. Lastly, if we are constantly talking, we have a difficult time hearing what God is speaking to us.

- **Are you somebody who speaks too much or listens in social situations? Talk about a time when you put your foot in your mouth, and your words got you in trouble.**
 - Read the following verses and discuss how they relate
 - James 1:19
 - James 3:2
 - Ecclesiastes 5:2-3
 - Proverbs 17:27
 - Matthew 15:11
 - Proverbs 21:23
 - Psalm 19:14