

# PENTECOST

*Pentecost - worshipping with joy; inviting the Spirit to be poured out on you.*

**Devotionals for 12 - 18 September 2021**

Come, Holy Spirit, fill the hearts of your faithful. And kindle in them the fire of your love. Send forth your Spirit and they shall be created. And you will renew the face of the earth. During Jesus's last days on earth, He promised His followers that "the Helper, the Holy Spirit, whom the Father will send in my name, he will teach you all things" (John 14:26)

## **Proverbs 17 ~ WISDOM, JUSTICE, AND FAMILY**

Proverbs 17:6 (New King James Version) - Children's children are the crown of old men, And the glory of children is their father.

Proverbs 17:6 (The Voice) Grandchildren are the crowning glory and ultimate delight of old age, and parents are the pride of their children.

a. Children's children are the crown of old men: Grandchildren are like a crown of glory for a grandparent. They can give an almost indescribable sense of pleasure and satisfaction. "The proverb pictures them gathered around the aged parent like a crowning diadem." (Waltke)

The glory of children is their father: This is true both as a fact and as an aspiration. It is natural for children to glory in their father, and fathers should live and parent in such a way that would cause their children to glory in them. "Behind this apparently innocent proverb is a profound assertion of the psychological interdependence of the generations. Elders derive a sense of pride from their descendants, and children get their self-worth from parents. On the other hand, one generation can cause shame and a sense of worthlessness in another." (Garrett)

"These fine family fruits need cultivating and protecting. A neglected crop, riddled with mutual antipathy, is seen in the following scriptures:

*Isaiah 3:5 - Leaving people to take advantage of each other, making their lives miserable. Youngsters will terrorize the elderly, and the most despicable will bully the upstanding.*

*Micah 7:6 - For the son insults the father, the daughter rebels against the mother, and the daughter-in-law rises up against the mother-in-law. Your enemies can be found within your own household.*

*2 Timothy 3:2-4 - 2 You see, the world will be filled with narcissistic, money-grubbing, pretentious, arrogant, and abusive people. They will rebel against their parents and will be ungrateful, unboly, 3 uncaring, coldhearted, accusing, without restraint, savage, and haters of anything good. 4 Expect them to be treacherous, reckless, swollen with self-importance, and given to loving pleasure more than they love God." (Kidner)*

Grandchildren are the crowning glory and ultimate delight of old age, and parents are the pride of their children. They are so, that is, they should be so, and, if they conduct themselves worthily, they are so.

It is an honor to parents when they are old to leave children, and children's children, growing up, that tread in the steps of their virtues, and are likely to maintain and advance the reputation of their families. It is an honor to a parents to live so long as to see their children's children (Psalm 128:6 - *May you have the privilege of seeing your grandchildren as they grow. May peace flourish in Israel!*) (Genesis 50:23 - *long enough to see Ephraim's children down to the third generation. Joseph adopted the children of Machir (Manasseh's son) and brought them up as his own.*), to see their house built up in them, and to see them likely to serve their generation according to the will of God. This crowns and completes their comfort in this world.

It is an honor to children to have wise and godly parents, and to have them continued in them even after they have themselves grown up and settled in the world. Then there are unnatural children who reckon their aged parents a burden to them, and

think they live too long; whereas, if the children be wise and good, it is as much their honor as can be that thereby they are comforts to their parents in the unpleasant days of their old age.

Prayer: Look with love on grandparents the world over. Protect them! They are a source of enrichment for families and for all of society. Support them! As they grow older, may they continue to be for their families strong pillars of Gospel faith, guardian of noble domestic ideals, living treasuries of sound religious traditions. Make them teachers of wisdom and courage, that they may pass on to future generations the fruits of their mature human and spiritual experience. Help families and society to value the presence and roles of grandparents. Amen.

The Book of Proverbs is one of the books classified as the poetry of Scripture. Job, Psalms, Proverbs, Ecclesiastes, and Song of Solomon all belong in the same package because they are written as Hebrew poetry. Solomon is the writer of three of these books of poetry: Proverbs, Ecclesiastes, and Song of Solomon. Proverbs is the book on wisdom. Ecclesiastes is the book on folly. Song of Solomon is the book on love. Love is the happy medium between wisdom and folly. Solomon was an expert on all three subjects!

In the Book of Proverbs we read the wisdom of Solomon. A proverb is a saying that conveys a specific truth in a pointed and pithy way. Proverbs are short sentences drawn from long experience. A proverb is a truth that is couched in a form that is easy to remember, a philosophy based on experience, and a rule for conduct. A proverb has been called a sententious sentence, a maxim, an old saying, an old saw, a bromide, an epigram.

Read Proverbs 17 and answer the quiz. <https://biblestudylessons.net/NS/prov17quiz.html>

**Tip: the answers must be in the text of Chapter 17.**

1. What is better than a house full of feasting with strife?

- A wise servant
- A dry morsel with quietness
- The wise woman

2. What servant will share an inheritance among brothers?

- A conniving and shrewd clerk
- An obedient one
- One who rules over a son that causes shame

3. Who tests the hearts?

- The Lord
- A humble soul
- A person with pride

4. Who listens eagerly to a spiteful tongue?

- A humbled husband
- A gossip
- A liar

5. Who reproaches his Maker?

- He who mocks the poor
- A confused watchman
- A faithful witness

6. Who are the crown of old men?

- The children's children
- A good bank account
- Scoffers

7. What kind of speech is not expected from a fool?

- Foolish
- Jabbering
- Excellent

8. What is a precious stone in the eyes of its possessor?

- A diamond
- A rock
- A present

9. Who will separate friends?

- He who repeats a matter
- The misinformed
- Fools

10. What is ineffective on a fool?

- Gladness
- A hundred blows
- Bitterness

11. What does an evil man seek?

- The forlorn
- Rebellion
- The upright

12. A fool in folly is worse than what kind of bear?

- Facts that are free from frivolity
- Polar type
- One robbed of her cubs

13. When one rewards evil for good, what will not depart from his house?

- Joy in occasions
- Evil
- Many sorrows

14. When should contention be best stopped?

- Before a quarrel starts
- When it gets physical
- When it ends up in court

15. He who condemns the just is what to the Lord?

- Happy ones
- Simple
- An abomination

16. Even a fool has in his hand the purchase price of what?

- A new house
- Wisdom
- Popcorn

17. When does a friend love you?

- When you owe money
- At all times
- At times of persecution

18. One is devoid of understanding when he becomes what?

- Ignorant
- All knowing
- A surety for a friend

19. Who loves strife?

- The good
- He who loves transgression
- The evil

20. Who finds no good?

- The rich
- The good hearted
- He who has a deceitful heart

21. Who has no joy?

- The father of a fool
- The poor who return profits
- He who has mercy on the poor

22. What does good, like medicine?

- Being charitable
- Denying responsibility
- A merry heart

23. A wicked man accepts a bribe to pervert what?

- Believing in one's heart
- The ways of justice
- Labor

24. A foolish son is bitterness to whom?

- He who has dust from one's feet
- A crowned prince
- To her that bore him

25. It is not good to punish whom?

- The righteous
- One who is versed in the sciences
- A true witness

26. What kind of spirit does a man of understanding have?

- The violent one
- A calm one
- The abandoned soul

27. A fool is thought to be wise when what is shut?

- Darkness
- The door behind adversity
- His lips

*In other words, let's have a blessed new Church Year through the Grace of our Lord.*

**Talking to Our Heavenly Father - *If we have faith, our prayers will be answered.***

**You're Not Alone, Let Us Pray with You & For You**

- Ms. Marilyn Liepert, recovering from a fall. The family ask for your continued prayers of healing and renewing of strength. Ms. Marilyn Liepert, 656 Wolcott St. West Bend WI 53090

- Mr. Ethan Schnell, Ms. Dot Edison's daughter-in-law's nephew. Ethan has gone through his last chemotherapy. He is doing well and hopes future tests will reveal he has been cured. Continue to keep him in your prayers. We give God thanks and praise for miraculous healing. Ethan's wife is doing well. Cards and notes of continued prayer and encouragement can be mailed to: Ethan Schnell, 500 Melrose Street, Morgan Town West Virginia 26505
- Mr. Martin Martinelli, convalescing and rehabilitating from knee replacement surgery, 2 September 2021. Martin extends his heartfelt and sincerest gratitude for your continued prayers, support, and encouragement. *Thank you so much is all I want to say.* Mr. Martin Martinelli, 659 South 14<sup>th</sup> Ave. West Bend WI 53095
- Fifth Avenue UMC, I humbly ask that we begin a season of unceasing prayer for Ms. Irina Johnson, daughter (in-law) of Ms. Barb Johnson. Ms. Irina has been invasive breast cancer. She will have a surgical procedure on 16 September 2021. Ms. Irina believes in the power and healing of sincere and passionate prayer and ask that we journey with her and her family as God see her through this medical challenge. Cards and notes of healing, strength and comfort can be mailed C/O Ms. Barb Johnson, Ms. Irina Johnson, 190 Mayer Street, West Bend, WI 53090
- Mr. Ted Meilahn, return of his strength and courage as he continues to have medical concerns; Cards and notes of care and prayer can be mailed to: 1085 Fondu du Lac Ave., Box 23, Kewaskum, WI 53040
- Our deepest and warmest comforts to the family of Ms. Julia Stettler, on her passing, 16 August 2021. Cards and notes of sympathies and comfort can be sent to Mr. Don Stettler, 107 Cedar Ridge Dr. #N313, West Bend, WI 53095
- Ms. Trisha Funke, daughter of Mr. Ralph & Ms. Bonnie Hensel. Cards of encouragement and prayers for miraculous healing can be sent to her parents. Mr. Ralph & Ms. Bonnie Hensel, 629 Highland View Drive, West Bend WI 53095
- Mr. Roger Sacia, is requesting prayers for healing; Mrs. Nobi Sacia words of encouragement and prayers for healing. Mr. Roger and Ms. Nobi have permanently relocated to Madison with their daughter. Their new address is: 1626 Jefferson Street, Madison WI 53711
- Mr. William (Bill) & Mrs. Ginger Hornung would love to hear from you! Cards or notes of encouragement or "just thinking of you" can be mailed to: W194N16744 Eagle Dr. Room 3, Jackson, WI 53037
- Prayers of encouragement and steadfastness for Ms. Jennifer Cechvala, as she beings her Spiritual Guidance ministry ~ a place to ...breathe, be still, become. 5<sup>th</sup> Ave. UMC (lower level of the church in the former children's library area).
- Mrs. Janice Liepert-Kempf, continued healing; [alankempf33@gmail.com](mailto:alankempf33@gmail.com); 414B. South Pleasantview Road, Plymouth, WI 53073; phone number: 920.838.1830.
- Fifth Avenue UMC's Laity, Accountable Leadership Board, Pastor & Bro. Martin – Lord in your mercy, hear our prayer.
- Bro. Bob Krell, continued prayer for healing; 804 Lenora Drive, West Bend, WI 53090
- Ms. Nancy Whitson, healing and strength; 922 Hickory Street, West Bend, WI 53095

*"Beloved, I pray that all may go well with you and that you may be in good health, as it goes well with your soul." 3 John 1:2*

Prayer: Loving God, we thank you for our grandparents who have played such an important role in our lives. We remember with joy all of the time spent together doing simple things like fishing, doing a puzzle, baking cookies, taking a walk, reading a story and learning about the wonder of nature. Thank you for the privilege of hearing their stories of life in another time and place that inspired us to work hard, be patient, courageously endure hard times and to dare to follow our dreams. We are forever grateful for the wisdom and stability they provided when we felt our world was falling apart. What a great gift to us that they loved us just because we were their grandchild. Thank you that they counted it joy to spend time listening as we told them about the big and little things going on in our lives. May we continuously feel their hugs and feel the warmth of their smiles so that we can better comprehend your constant and unchanging love for us. We ask your kind forgiveness for the times we failed to appreciate our grandparents, for the times we were too wrapped up in ourselves and our own activities to spend more time with them. Help us to become more like them as we age, learning how to accept with grace the limitations of aging bodies. Give us their strong and supernatural grace to face the loss of our own aging friends and family the same way our grandparents have. May we learn from them how to face the prospects of our own limited time on earth and our own deaths with the dignity, peace, and assurance of eternal life. And when our time comes to be grandparents ourselves, help us to follow in their loving footsteps. Amen. (Adapted)

**Your humble Pastor & Servant Leaders,  
Pastor Clarissa & Bro. Martin**