

Witness

Disciple

Send

“A thousand distractions would woo us away from thoughts of God, but if we are wise we will sternly put them from us and make room for the King and take time to entertain Him.”

A.W. Tozer

Proverbs 1 & Matthew 1

“If we consider the unblushing promises of reward and the staggering nature of the rewards promised in the Gospels, it would seem that Our Lord finds our desires not too strong, but too weak. We are half-hearted creatures, fooling about with drink and sex and ambition when infinite joy is offered us, like an ignorant child who wants to go on making mud pies in a slum because he cannot imagine what is meant by the offer of a holiday at the sea. *We are far too easily pleased.* (26)” -Cs Lewis

Proverbs 2 & Matthew 2

Understanding equals responsibility. We are called to live up to what we know to be TRUE everyday.

Proverbs 3 & Matthew 3

There is no such thing as an idle Christian. You are either walking towards God or away from Him.

Discipline leads to desire and desire leads to delight.

Proverbs 4 & Matthew 4

“The reason why many are still troubled, still seeking, still making little forward progress is because they haven't yet come to the end of themselves. We're still trying to give orders, and interfering with God's work within us. ” — A. W. Tozer

“Baptism is an outward expression of an inward faith” - Watchman Nee

Do you have an outward expression of humility, love, sacrifice, patience, and grace in your life which come from an inward faith in Jesus?

Proverbs 5 & Matthew 5

“Humility is not thinking less of yourself, but thinking of yourself less” -Andrew Murray

“Humility is having a sober sense of reality” -Andrew Murray

Is Perfection possible? The word perfection in the Greek means to be mature, which means to live up to what you know. Is that possible? Yes, yes it is. God never calls us to do anything He did not do.

Proverbs 6 & Matthew 6

“The King warns His people against laying up for themselves earthly treasures. The Master does not say it is wrong to possess earthly treasure. He does say it is wrong to lay it up for self. We are to hold it as *stewards*.” - G Campbell Morgan

What you Want wants You.

Proverbs 7 & Matthew 7

“Prayer is not overcoming God’s reluctance but laying hold of His willingness.”

- Martin Luther

Intellectual deception always follows moral rejection.

Proverbs 8 & Matthew 8

“The moment the Lord Jesus Christ saves a soul he gives that soul strength for its appointed service.” - Charles Spurgeon

“Jesus didn’t come to make bad men good, but to make dead men alive.” -Ravi Zacharias

Proverbs 9 & Matthew 9

Repentance is turning away from sin and agreeing with God on what is right.

Proverbs 10 & Matthew 10

God cares about every detail of our lives

Lord knows what we need, when we need it. When we speak wisdom, it's not from us, but from God and His Spirit.

Proverbs 11 & Matthew 11

Jesus invites us to have rest in Him.

“To Jesus himself we must come, by a personal trust. Not to doctrine, ordinance, nor ministry are we to come first; but to the personal Saviour.”

- Charles Spurgeon

Proverbs 12 & Matthew 12

God disciplines us or “corrects” us because He loves us.

God doesn't look at the deeds we do either good or bad, but He looks at the heart behind. Today and everyday, why do you do the things you do and who do you do them for?

Proverbs 13 & Matthew 13

How do we receive The Word of God? Do we receive it on good soil?

In the parable of the hidden treasure in the field; we are the treasure, Jesus is the purchaser. Jesus gave EVERYTHING He had in order to purchase us back, because He loves us.

Proverbs 14 & Matthew 14

“One might think that fear always leads to a loss of confidence. But that isn’t how it works with the fear of the Lord. Our honor, reverence, and sense of awe towards Him moves us from self-confidence and towards strong confidence in God’s love and greatness...God always provides Himself as a refuge for His children.” David Guzik

Proverbs 15 & Matthew 15

“God doesn’t answer prayer, He answers desperate prayer” -Leonard Ravenhill

“Trust God!”

“Faith equals trust.”

Proverbs 16 & Matthew 16

God sees the contents of our hearts. If God took inventory of your heart at this moment, what would he find?

Discipleship is a very costly thing. It requires a daily dying to ourselves.

Proverbs 17 & Matthew 17

God's affections for us are not *circumstantial*. Just because bad things are happening, does not mean that we can't put our trust in Him.

Proverbs 18 & Matthew 18

Hurt > bitterness > rebellion > intellectual deception (you have become the thing you hated).

Unforgiveness is a cause of our suffering.

Forgiveness is realizing that we ourselves are receivers of Forgiveness, Grace and Mercy; and when we realize that, we may extend forgiveness much faster and without struggle.

Proverbs 19 & Matthew 19

Who is on the throne of your heart? Is it God, or is it you?

“In every Christian’s heart there is a cross and a throne, and the Christian is on the throne till he puts himself on the cross. If he refuses the cross then he remains on the throne. Perhaps this is at the bottom of the backsliding and worldliness among gospel believers today. We want to be saved but we insist that Christ do all the dying. No cross for us, no dethronement, no dying... we doom ourselves to shadows and weakness and spiritual sterility.” -A.W. Tozer

Challenge- Determine a day this week to set aside to fast and pray and ask God to reveal His heart to you.

“How can anyone every know what it is to hunger for righteousness when they have never voluntarily skipped a meal?” -Dick Brogden

Proverbs 20 & Matthew 20

“We need each other.”

“There are no rewards for coming early in the Kingdom if God.” -Winkie Pratney

Proverbs 21 & Matthew 21

“Faith equals trust.”

Obedience is doing exactly what you’re told and doing it quickly because I love Him.

Proverbs 22 & Matthew 22

“Authority exercised with humility, and obedience accepted with delight, are the very lines along which our spirits live.” – C.S. Lewis

How important is a teachable heart in your Christian walk?

Whose image is on you?

Proverbs 23 & Matthew 23

Those whose heart is worried about presenting their outward appearance before caring about their inward will result in “extortion and self-indulgence.” Self-indulgence here in v. 25 means desire of self control. In the gospel of Luke, he trades *extortion* for *greed*. Are we truly laying ourselves down unto Christ with complete dependence upon Him?

“Our growth is *inward* before it is *outward*.” - Christina Williams

Proverbs 24 & Matthew 24

“Blessed is that servant whom his master, when he comes, will find so doing.” It’s easy to work hard at our jobs when the boss is in the room. What about when he’s not? It’s much more desirable to walk in community and be righteous in the midst of our brothers and sisters in Christ. What about when we go home over the break? Will we slack off because we think grace can bring us back when we are in the presence of those who love and forgive us? May we be hungry for Jesus even when our closest friends are not in close proximity.

Envy is evil in itself, especially because we usually act upon it. We resent what others have and desire to act to remove it from them or celebrate in their failure.

Gratitude must radiate from us constantly, knowing we serve a good Father.

Challenge: Every day before you go to bed, thank God for what He HAS GIVEN YOU, instead of looking at what you do not have.

Proverbs 25 & Matthew 25

“We must not be greedy of desiring the praises of man any more than of pleasure, because, *for men to search their own glory*, to court applause and covet to make themselves popular, is not their glory, but their shame; and the glory which is so courted *is not glory* when it is got, for it is really no true honour to a man.” -
Matthew Henry

Parable of the talents: Comparison is the thief of joy.

God will always give us what we are able to handle. *It's not about how much opportunity God gives through the gifts He gives, but my faithfulness to the opportunity.* Do we look at gifts God has given and ask Him to help us grow so that we can give Him the best offering we can?

Proverbs 26 & Matthew 26

Our laziness can lead to having an independent spirit. An independent spirit wants nothing from fellowship, cares only for his own personal interest, and cares nothing for those around him. No one has a say in their life. Independent spirited people think they are wiser than others. Do we submit to Jesus daily and Christ in people, or just trust ourselves?

The woman poured her costly perfume on Jesus, giving her everything she had. Do we do the same to Christ? Do we take our best, and not use it for ourselves or our own good, but offer it to the one who gave it to use to begin with?

Proverbs 27 & Matthew 27

You become like those who you surround yourself with.

“Our love to God is measured by our everyday fellowship with others and the love it displays.” - Andrew Murray

Those who persecuted Jesus and led Him to Cross hated His righteousness because His righteousness demanded that their sin and selfishness be destroyed. Do we try to make our own way, crucifying Jesus again like His accusers, or do we submit to His person because **“He is the Way, the Truth, and the Life?”**

Proverbs 28 & Matthew 28

“For anyone to see rebellion and not lift his hand to oppose it is itself rebellion. If we see our neighbor sin, make no opposition, and give no reproof, we consent to their sin and encourage them in it. In the eyes of God and in the eyes of the law, you are guilty of the same sin.” - Charles Finney

“God needs those who are ready to lay down their very lives to lead others into true soldiership and a true following of the crucified.” - Amy Carmichael

Do we see the Great Commission as a suggestion or command that we obey with love?

Proverbs 29 & 1 John 1,2

Feelings are not the test of truth. The biggest thing we will fight in obedience is our feelings. Do we trust Truth in the midst of any feelings we have?

A critical spirit seeks to find the bad in everything, and isn't satisfied with just being a critical spirit, but desires others to join in his misery.

Anointing - the ability of God to do in me what I cannot do myself. Do we ask the Holy Spirit to aid us in the gifts He's given us?

Proverbs 30 & 1 John 3,4

"The eye that mocks his father, and scorns obedience to his mother..." (v. 17) God asks us to honor our parents regardless of our relationship to them. They are made in the image of God too. Over the break, have we honored them even when we haven't wanted to? There's still time to do so.

Jesus on the Cross was the ultimate display of love. Do we just accept it or let that love flow through us to others?

"At the cross God wrapped his heart in flesh and blood and let it be nailed to the cross for our redemption." - E. Stanley Jones

Proverbs 31 & 1 John 5

Virtuous means righteous, good and pure. Are these things we desire in ourselves on our own strength or through Jesus?

“Outside of the resurrection of Jesus, I do not know of any other hope for this world.” - Chancellor Adenauer

Do we trust that the Gospel itself is powerful enough to draw men and women to Jesus, or do we feel we must water it down and make our own interpretation of it because we aren't sure it's enough?
