

Proverbs 27

"Wisdom On Human Relations"

Below you will find the Scripture Passages and Bible Study notes for this weeks lesson. They are also attached to this email if you would like to put them in a folder or share them with family and friends. If you have a specific prayer request or would like someone to be placed on the prayer list please forward your requests to Sbcodylestown@yahoo.com. If your schedule allows, please consider joining us for our live bible study on Weds. 12:00 p.m. or 7:30 p.m. I pray that this study will be a blessing to you.
Pastor Hamlin

THEME: Wisdom For The Leaders (Chapters 25-31)

PURPOSE: Solomon wanted to impart wisdom to all people, regardless of their age, sex, or position in society. These short, wise sayings give us practical wisdom for daily living. We should study them diligently and integrate them into our life.

OUTLINE:

1. **NEITHER BOAST NOR BRAG (27:1-3):** You do not know what the future will bring. Let others praise you.
2. **MORE DANGEROUS THAN ANGER (27:4):** Jealousy is more destructive than wrath.
3. **SWEETER THAN KISSES (27:5-9):** A friend's criticism is better than kisses from the enemy.
4. **NEVER FORGET A FRIEND (27:10-14):** If you remember your friends, they will help you when you need it.
5. **A RAINY DAY AND A CRANKY WOMAN (27:15-18):** They are equally annoying.
6. **MORE REFLECTIVE THAN A MIRROR (27:19-22):** "As a face is reflected in water, so the heart reflects the person."
7. **CARING FOR THE LAMBS (27:23-27):** Put your heart into caring for your flock, because it will provide food and clothing for you.

Proverbs 27

(New International Version)

(Verses 1-3) NEITHER BOAST NOR BRAG: You do not know what the future will bring. Let others praise you.

Do not boast about tomorrow, for you do not know what a day may bring. ² Let someone else praise you, and not your own mouth; an outsider, and not your own lips. ³ Stone is heavy and sand a burden, but a fool's provocation is heavier than both.

(Verse 4) MORE DANGEROUS THAN ANGER: Jealousy is more destructive than wrath.

⁴ Anger is cruel and fury overwhelming, but who can stand before jealousy?

(Verses 5-9) SWEETER THAN KISSES: A friend's criticism is better than kisses from the enemy.

⁵ Better is open rebuke than hidden love. ⁶ Wounds from a friend can be trusted, but an enemy multiplies kisses. ⁷ One who is full loathes honey from the comb, but to the hungry even what is bitter tastes sweet. ⁸ Like a bird that flees its nest is anyone who flees from home. ⁹ Perfume and incense bring joy to the heart, and the pleasantness of a friend springs from their heartfelt advice.

PROVERBS 27:6

Who would prefer a friend's wounds to an enemy's kisses? Anyone who considers the source. A friend who has your best interests at heart may have to give you unpleasant advice at times, but you know it is for your own good. An enemy, by contrast, may whisper sweet words and happily send you on your way to ruin. We tend to hear what we want to hear, even if an enemy is the only one who will say it. A friend's advice, no matter how painful, is much better.

(Verses 10-14) NEVER FORGET A FRIEND: If you remember your friends, they will help you when you need it.

¹⁰ Do not forsake your friend or a friend of your family, and do not go to your relative's house when disaster strikes you better a neighbor nearby than a relative far away. ¹¹ Be wise, my son, and bring joy to my heart; then I can answer anyone who treats me with contempt. ¹² The prudent see danger and take refuge, but the simple keep going and pay the penalty. ¹³ Take the garment of one who puts up security for a stranger; hold it in pledge if it is done for an outsider. ¹⁴ If anyone loudly blesses their neighbor early in the morning, it will be taken as a curse.

(Verses 15-18) A RAINY DAY AND A CRANKY WOMAN: They are equally annoying.

¹⁵ A quarrelsome wife is like the dripping of a leaky roof in a rainstorm; ¹⁶ restraining her is like restraining the wind or grasping oil with the hand. ¹⁷ As iron sharpens iron, so one person

sharpens another. ¹⁸ *The one who guards a fig tree will eat its fruit, and whoever protects their master will be honored.*

PROVERBS 27:15, 16

Quarrelsome nagging, a steady stream of unwanted advice, is a form of torture. People nag because they think they're not getting through, but nagging hinders communication more than it helps. When tempted to engage in this destructive habit, stop and examine your motives. Are you more concerned about yourself-getting your way, being right-than about the person you are pretending to help? If you are truly concerned about other people, think of a more effective way to get through to them. Surprise them with words of patience and love, and see what happens.

PROVERBS 27:17

There is a mental sharpness that comes from being around good people. And a meeting of minds can help people see their ideas with new clarity, refine them, and shape them into brilliant insights. This requires partners who can challenge each other and stimulate thought-people who focus on the idea without involving their egos in the discussion; people who know how to attack the thought and not the thinker. Two friends who bring their ideas together can help each other become sharper.

PROVERBS 27:18

With all the problems and concerns a leader has, it can be easy to overlook the very people who most deserve attention-faithful employees or volunteers (those who tend the fig trees). The people who stand behind you, who work hard and help you get the job done, deserve to share in your success. Be sure that in all your planning, organizing, and working, you don't forget the people who are helping you the most.

(Verses 19-22) MORE REFLECTIVE THAN A MIRROR (27:19-22): "As a face is reflected in water, so the heart reflects the person."

¹⁹ *As water reflects the face, so one's life reflects the heart.* ²⁰ *Death and Destruction are never satisfied, and neither are human eyes.* ²¹ *The crucible for silver and the furnace for gold, but people are tested by their praise.* ²²

Though you grind a fool in a mortar, grinding them like grain with a pestle, you will not remove their folly from them.

PROVERBS 27:21

Praise tests a person, just as high temperatures test metal. How does praise affect you? Do you work to get it? Do you work harder after you've gotten it? Your attitude toward praise tells a lot about your character. People of high integrity are not swayed by praise. They are attuned to their inner convictions, and they do what they should whether or not they are praised for it.

(Verses 23-27) CARING FOR THE LAMBS: Put your heart into caring for your flock, because it will provide food and clothing for you.

²³ Be sure you know the condition of your flocks, give careful attention to your herds; ²⁴ for riches do not endure forever, and a crown is not secure for all generations. ²⁵ When the hay is removed and new growth appears and the grass from the hills is gathered in, ²⁶ the lambs will provide you with clothing, and the goats with the price of a field. ²⁷ You will have plenty of goats' milk to feed your family and to nourish your female servants.

PROVERBS 27:23-27

Because life is uncertain, we should be all the more diligent in preparing for the future. We should act with foresight, giving responsible attention to our home, our family, and our career. We should be responsible stewards, like a farmer with his lands and herds. Thinking ahead is a duty, not an option, for God's people.