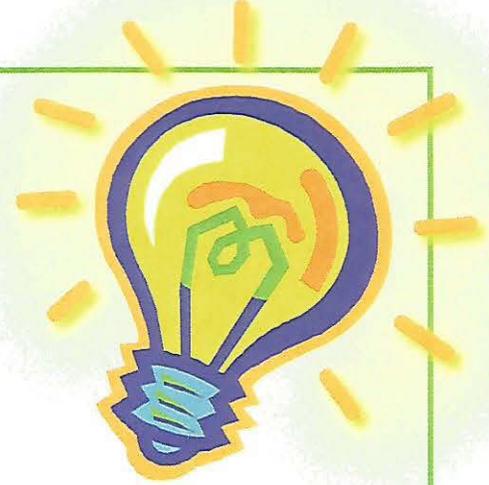


# Lighting the Way



Lesson 9

## Proverbs Teach Us

**Theme:** Self-control – Resisting temptation

### Memory Verse

“Now all has been heard; here is the conclusion of the matter: Fear God and keep His commandments, for this is the whole duty of man. For God will bring every deed into judgment, including every hidden thing, whether it is good or evil.”

Ecclesiastes 12:13-14

### Daily Bible Readings

Thursday	Proverbs 15:1-11
Friday	Proverbs 17:1-20
Saturday	Proverbs 23:29-34
Monday	Proverbs 24:30-34
Tuesday	Proverbs 31:10-31

**P**roverbs are usually a few words that get right to the point. Men and women lived, looked, and learned. They wrote down what they learned so others can learn it, too. We have proverbs in our time such as “You reap what you sow,” “Pretty is as pretty does,” and “A bird in the hand is worth two in the bush.” People have made up those proverbs. The Old Testament proverbs are from God.

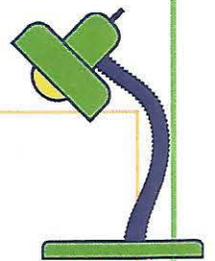
### Lessons About Life

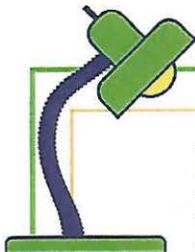
Proverbs from God teach us how to live. They tell us what’s right and what’s wrong. By living and observing life, wise men and women learned, and wrote what they learned in a few words. Here are some

#### Proverbs 15:1-11

When someone talks to us in anger, what kind of answer is best?

- Quick
- None
- Gentle or soft





### Proverbs 17:1-20

Do we make or break friendships by telling everything we know? (verse 9)

Why should we stop a fight as soon as it gets started?

Because a fight is like \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_.

proverbs that might be especially helpful to you:

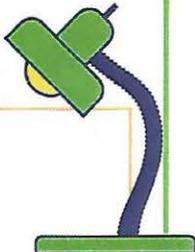
- 15:1, A gentle answer turns anger away, But mean words stir up anger.
- 15:16, It is better to have respect for the Lord and have a little than to be rich and have trouble.
- 16:25, There is a way that may seem right to a man, But in the end it leads to death.
- 17:25, A foolish child makes his father sad and his mother sorry.

### Learn How Things Turn Out

When we do something for the first time, we don't always know how it will turn out. But after we have done it several times, we learn how it will usually turn out. In Proverbs, wise men and women tell us how certain attitudes and actions usually turn out. We don't have to make the mistakes others have made. We can listen and learn.

For example, we see a lot of people around us drinking beer and wine. This is popular and seems fun. People talk about having a "good time" by drinking. But the wise man tells us what most people won't tell us. "At the last [wine] bites like a serpent And stings like a viper" (Proverbs 23:32). Drinking alcohol causes sorrow, fights, and disease. Should we learn from this wisdom? Or do we have to let it "bite" and "sting" us before we learn the lesson?

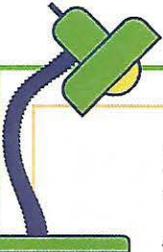
Some people don't want to work. They want to have things and enjoy life, but they are lazy. The wise man tells us what he learned from observing the lazy person's field (Proverbs 24:30-34). If we sleep all the



### Proverbs 23:29-34

How does wine look in a cup?

What does wine do when people drink it?



### Proverbs 24:30-34

What did the wise man learn when he saw the lazy man's field?

- Crops grew in it anyway
- Weeds are nice
- Sleeping when you should be working lets weeds grow

time and won't use our hands to work, we will be poor!

We can also read about the "excellent wife" described in Proverbs 31 and learn what makes her excellent. Working hard, taking care of her family, and, most importantly, fearing God make her important and loved. It's okay to want to look our best, but looking good to others does not necessarily make us look good to God. The

wise man said, "Charm is deceitful and beauty is vain, but a woman who fears the Lord, she shall be praised" (Proverbs 31:30). We can read Proverbs and be wise!

### Proverbs 31:10-31

*Circle all the correct answers:*

The "excellent wife" . . .

- Makes herself look good
- Works hard
- Helps the poor
- Makes herself strong
- Works hard to be popular
- Is kind

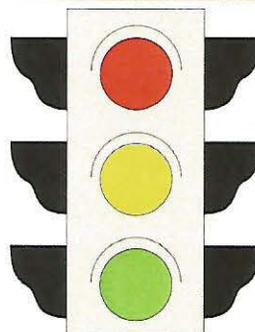
What do her husband and children think of her? Why? (31:28-30)

Her husband \_\_\_\_\_

Her children \_\_\_\_\_

Because she \_\_\_\_\_

I try to learn from the mistakes of others.



Put an X in the light that best describes you.

**Red** — usually not

**Yellow** — sometimes

**Green** — all the time



Like the wise men and women who wrote Proverbs, you have learned some lessons from your life, too. Write down one of them and be sure to tell how you learned it. For example: People who eat a lot of sugar have a hard time sitting still and being quiet.

I have learned:

This is how I learned it:

## Shine a Light on the Bible Facts



Which books of the Old Testament are about the United and Divided Kingdoms, King Solomon and Israel losing the Promised Land?

Practice turning to books of the Bible without using the Table of Contents or Index Tabs. Try these:

Ephesians 1:1

Philemon 1:1

Nehemiah 1:1

On a map inside the back cover, use your pencil to lightly trace the route of the Exodus, including Mount Sinai, the Wilderness wanderings, Moab, and Mount Nebo.