

Sermon Notes

Proverbs 1

June 7, 2026

I. Introduction

Proverbs 1 provides foundational wisdom focused on the fear of the Lord, the value of instruction, and avoiding bad company. Key verses emphasize that reverent respect for God is the starting point of knowledge, while highlighting the dangers of complacency and the importance of listening to parents.

- a. life is filled with choices... UNC says adults make 35,000 choices daily... that's 2000 per hour... 12,775,000 annually... 383,250,000 by age 30... 766,500,000 by age 60... and a staggering 1,149,750,000 by 90... Cornell says we make 226 choices daily about food...
- b. choices can be good or bad... lead to life or death... but, you get to choose...
Deut 30:15-19... "set before you life and prosperity... death and adversity... choose..."
Josh 24:15... "choose for yourselves who to worship... as for me and my house..."
Prov 16:25... "there is a way that seems right... but in the end it leads to death..."
Rom 6:4-23... "Christ was raised so we may walk in life... the gift of God is life..."
Rom 14:23... "everything that is not of faith is sin..."
James 4:17... "it is sin to know what you ought to do and then not do it..."
- c. what does it look like to make a good choice... let's see what great adventure our son Tim is doing right now... so, is that a good choice or a bad choice... pray...

II. One

- a. going to spend all summer in Proverbs... sometimes called the Book of Wisdom...
Prov 3:13-18... "blessed in the man who finds wisdom... she is the tree of life..."
Prov 4:5-9... "get wisdom... don't abandon wisdom... wisdom is supreme..."
Prov 9:1-6... "wisdom has built her house... whoever is inexperienced, enter here..."
- b. thousands of choices daily... no shortage of info and opinions in our world... much of it is lousy... not after worldly advice... but godly wisdom to guide our path...
Job 12:12-16... "wisdom belongs to God... true wisdom belongs to Him..."
Prov 2:2... "listen closely to wisdom and direct your heart to understanding..."
Prov 3:5-6... "trust in the Lord... do not rely on own understanding... He will direct your path..."
Eccl 7... "wisdom is as good as an inheritance... wisdom is protection... wisdom is strength..."
Isa 30:21... "your ears will hear this command... *this is the way, walk in it...*"
Luke 2:40-52... "Jesus increased in wisdom... in favor with God and with people..."
2Tim 3:16... "all scripture is useful... to teach, rebuke, correct, train... in righteousness..."
- c. there is a way to make good choices... starts by planting yourself in church... can't thrive without choosing to worship together... Find Family, Jesus, Grace... even in summer...
Psa 84:4... "blessed are those who dwell in Your house..."
Psa 92:12-14... "righteous thrive... planted in house of the Lord... thrive in courts of our God..."
Psa 122:1... "I rejoiced with those who said... *let us go to the house of the Lord...*"
2:42-47... "met, ate, worshipped, prayed, took communion together..."
1Cor 5:4... "when you are assembled in the name of Jesus... there is power..."
1Tim 4:13... "devote yourself to the public reading of scripture, preaching, teaching..."
Heb 10:24-25... "consider one another... not neglecting to meet together... as some do..."

- d. as we talk about wisdom... it is not a thing... wisdom is a Person... the person of Jesus...
Prov 8:12-31... "L wisdom, dwell with prudence... counsel is mine... I am understanding... I have been established from everlasting... from the beginning, before there was earth... when He prepared the heavens, I was there... I was beside Him as a master craftsman... I was daily His delight..."
1Cor 1:30... "you are in Christ... who became to us... wisdom from God..."
Col 1:16... "by Him all things were created... all created thru Him and for Him..."
- e. God gave Solomon exceptional wisdom... people from all over the world came to hear it...
1Kings 4:29... "God gave Solomon wisdom... great insight... vast understanding..."
Matt 12:42... "the Queen of Sheba will also stand up against this generation on judgment day and condemn it... for she came from a distant land to hear the wisdom of Solomon... now someone greater than Solomon is here... but you refuse to listen..."
- f. not going to approach Proverbs as a bunch of wise sayings or good advice... want to hear the voice of Jesus... experience His gentle love and leading for your life... as you spend time with Him... He will give you the answers that you seek...
Deut 4:29... "you will find the Lord when you seek Him with all your heart..."
1Chron 16:10-11... "let the hearts of those who seek the Lord rejoice... seek His face..."
Matt 6:25-34... "do not worry... seek first the kingdom... all these things will be added..."
Eph 1:17-19... "pray God would give you the Spirit of wisdom and revelation in knowledge of Him... heart may be enlightened to hope... immeasurable greatness of His power to us who believe..."
- g. One
how do we get wisdom and knowledge... wisdom starts with worship... declaring your dependence on Jesus... *can't do this on my own, I need your wisdom and guidance*...
Prov 1:5-7... "let a wise person listen and increase knowledge... let those with understanding receive guidance... fear of the Lord is the beginning of knowledge... fools despise wisdom and discipline..."
Deut 6:13 / Matt 4:9-10... "fear the Lord God..." / "worship the Lord your God..."

wisdom flows when you come to Jesus with your hands raised and your heart open...

- Psa 37:4... "delight yourself in the Lord and He will give you the desires of your heart..."
- Psa 147:11... "the Lord values those who worship Him... put hope in His faithful love..."
- Prov 8:17... "I love those who love Me... those who search for Me will find Me..."
- Jer 29:13... "you will find Me when you seek Me with all your heart..."

when you worship... receive supernatural wisdom and power that defeats your enemy...
2Chron 20... "we are powerless against this vast army... we do not know what to do, but we look to You... *the battle is not yours, but the Lord's, stand still*... king appointed singers to go in front of the army... *praise the Lord, for His mercy endures forever*... and their enemies were defeated..."
Psa 8:2... "You have established praise... to silence the enemy and the avenger..."
Psa 149... "sing praise... praise His name with dancing and music... the Lord takes pleasure in His people... let the faithful rejoice... praise in their mouths and a double-edged sword in their hands..."

tough decisions require supernatural wisdom... best place to start is not Google... not the Amazon driver... not your neighbor or even pastor... best place to start is worship... pray...
Prov 1:1-4... "proverbs of Solomon... for learning wisdom and discipline... for receiving instruction in righteousness, justice, and integrity... for giving insight to the simple..."
Prov 1:7... "the worship of the Lord is the beginning of knowledge..."
Prov 1:8... "listen to your father's instruction... don't reject your mother's teaching..."
Prov 1:20-33... "wisdom calls out in the street... how long will fools hate knowledge... if you respond, I will pour out my Spirit on you and teach you... the complacency of fools will destroy them... but whoever listens to Me will live safely and be undisturbed by the dread of danger..."

Read Proverbs 1 every day this week. As you start making the Word a habit... you will find yourself growing in wisdom daily. You will start to see things from His perspective and make good choices.