

What Friends Should Do

Colossians 4:14-18

Christian friends make others feel that they belong

A. Friends Greet One Another (4:14-15)

1. Tale of two greeters (4:14)

a. Luke, the beloved physician

1). Beloved by Paul because beloved of God

Colossians 3:12

2). Beloved by Paul because of his faithfulness

2 Timothy 4:11

b. Demas, the one who forsakes Paul

1). Paul's first mention

Philemon 1:24

2). Paul's second mention (v 14)

3). Paul's third mention

2 Timothy 4:10

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A. Friends Greet One Another (4:14-15) - continued

2. The greeting (4:15)

1). Encourage fellow believers (Wish well)

Philippians 4:21

2). To go beyond the church at Colosse, Laodicea

3). To the church in Nymphas' house

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B. Friends Encourage One Another (4:16-17)

1. The letters to be shared (4:16)

a. This letter

b. Another letter (Ephesians?)

2. Encouragement sent to Archippus (4:17)

Five responsibilities of Christian ministry

a. A personal responsibility - “And say to Archippus”

b. A demanding responsibility - “Take heed”

c. A specific responsibility –

“to the ministry which thou hast received”

d. A spiritual responsibility - “in the Lord”

e. An objective responsibility - “that thou fulfill it”

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C. Friends Remember One Another (4:18)

1. Regardless of circumstances

Philippians 4:11

2. With the *charis* of God

Hebrews 4:16

How Are We Friends To One Another?

The Fear Of The Lord

Proverbs 1

We need to respect God in all aspects of our lives

An Overview of Proverbs

A. Wisdom For Young People (Chapters 1 - 9)

B. Wisdom For All People (Chapters 10 - 24)

C. Wisdom For Leaders (Chapters 25 - 31)

**D. Practical suggestions for effective living based on
spiritual insight**

I. Introduction to Proverbs (1:1-6)

Proverbs 1:1-6

1 The proverbs of Solomon the son of David, king of Israel;

2 To know wisdom and instruction; to perceive the words of understanding;

3 To receive the instruction of wisdom, justice, and judgment, and equity;

4 To give subtilty to the simple, to the young man knowledge and discretion.

5 A wise man will hear, and will increase learning; and a man of understanding shall attain unto wise counsels:

6 To understand a proverb, and the interpretation; the words of the wise, and their dark sayings.

I. Introduction to Proverbs (1:1-6)

A. Solomon's gift of wisdom

1 Kings 4:29-32

29 And God gave Solomon wisdom and understanding exceeding much, and largeness of heart, even as the sand that is on the sea shore.

30 And Solomon's wisdom excelled the wisdom of all the children of the east country, and all the wisdom of Egypt.

31 For he was wiser than all men; than Ethan the Ezrahite, and Heman, and Chalcol, and Darda, the sons of Mahol: and his fame was in all nations round about.

32 And he spake three thousand proverbs: and his songs were a thousand and five.

I. Introduction to Proverbs (1:1-6)

B. The purpose of the book

- 1. To know wisdom (v 2)**
- 2. To know instruction (v 2)**
- 3. To perceive words of understanding (v 2)**
- 4. To be instructed in wisdom (v 3)**
- 5. To be instructed in justice (v 3)**
- 6. To be instructed in judgment (v 3)**
- 7. To be instructed in equity (v 3)**
- 8. To give prudence to those who are naïve (v 4)**
- 9. To give the young knowledge (v 4)**
- 10. To give the young discretion (v 4)**
- 11. To increase the wisdom of the wise (v 5)**
- 12. To give those who have understanding wise counsel (v 5)**

I. Introduction to Proverbs (1:1-6)

“The lessons here given are plain, and likely to benefit those who feel their own ignorance, and their need to be taught. If young people take heed to their ways, according to Solomon’s Proverbs, they will gain knowledge and discretion. Solomon speaks of the most important points of truth, and a greater than Solomon is here. Christ speaks by his word and by his Spirit. Christ is the Word and the Wisdom of God, and he is made to us wisdom.” – Matthew Henry

I. Introduction to Proverbs (1:1-6)

C. The fourfold benefits of the book (v 6)

1 Corinthians 2:14-16

14 But the natural man receiveth not the things of the Spirit of God: for they are foolishness unto him: neither can he know them, because they are spiritually discerned.

15 But he that is spiritual judgeth all things, yet he himself is judged of no man.

16 For who hath known the mind of the Lord, that he may instruct him? but we have the mind of Christ.

II. Fear God And Honor Parents (1:7-9)

Proverbs 1:7-9

**7 The fear of the LORD is the beginning of knowledge:
but fools despise wisdom and instruction.**

**8 My son, hear the instruction of thy father, and forsake
not the law of thy mother:**

**9 For they shall be an ornament of grace unto thy head,
and chains about thy neck.**

II. Fear God And Honor Parents (1:7-9)

A. Knowledge starts from the fear of the Lord (v 7)

1. Knowledge is information

2. Wisdom is the proper godly application of that knowledge

3. All information is to be used to the glory of God.

Psalms 111:10

The fear of the LORD is the beginning of wisdom: a good understanding have all they that do his commandments: his praise endureth for ever.

Job 28:28

And unto man he said, Behold, the fear of the LORD, that is wisdom; and to depart from evil is understanding.

II. Fear God And Honor Parents (1:7-9)

**B. Despising God's wisdom and instruction is foolish
(v 7)**

2 Timothy 3:7

**Ever learning, and never able to come to the knowledge
of the truth.**

II. Fear God And Honor Parents (1:7-9)

C. Wisdom early in life will bring lifelong benefits

Exodus 20:12

Honour thy father and thy mother: that thy days may be long upon the land which the LORD thy God giveth thee.

Ephesians 6:1-3

1 Children, obey your parents in the Lord: for this is right.

2 Honour thy father and mother; which is the first commandment with promise;

3 That it may be well with thee, and thou mayest live long on the earth.

1 Corinthians 15:33-34

33 Be not deceived: evil communications corrupt good manners.

34 Awake to righteousness, and sin not; for some have not the knowledge of God: I speak this to your shame.

III. Avoid Bad Influences (1:10-19)

A. Tempters are all around (vv 10-15)

Proverbs 1:10-15

10 My son, if sinners entice thee, consent thou not.

11 If they say, Come with us, let us lay wait for blood, let us lurk privily for the innocent without cause:

12 Let us swallow them up alive as the grave; and whole, as those that go down into the pit:

13 We shall find all precious substance, we shall fill our houses with spoil:

14 Cast in thy lot among us; let us all have one purse:

15 My son, walk not thou in the way with them; refrain thy foot from their path:

III. Avoid Bad Influences (1:10-19)

**B. Tempters will take you where you should not go
and do what you should not do (vv 16-19)**

Proverbs 1:16-19

**16 For their feet run to evil, and make haste to shed
blood.**

**17 Surely in vain the net is spread in the sight of any
bird.**

**18 And they lay wait for their own blood; they lurk
privily for their own lives.**

**19 So are the ways of every one that is greedy of gain;
which taketh away the life of the owners thereof.**

III. Avoid Bad Influences (1:10-19)

C. Defenses from tempters

1. Walk away

Romans 13:13-14

13 Let us walk honestly, as in the day; not in rioting and drunkenness, not in chambering and wantonness, not in strife and envying.

14 But put ye on the Lord Jesus Christ, and make not provision for the flesh, to fulfil the lusts thereof.

2. Prayer

Psalms 140:1

1 Deliver me, O LORD, from the evil man: preserve me from the violent man;

IV. The Call of Wisdom (1:20-33)

A. On the outside wanting in

Proverbs 1:20-23

20 Wisdom crieth without; she uttereth her voice in the streets:

21 She crieth in the chief place of concourse, in the openings of the gates: in the city she uttereth her words, saying,

22 How long, ye simple ones, will ye love simplicity? and the scorers delight in their scorning, and fools hate knowledge?

23 Turn you at my reproof: behold, I will pour out my spirit unto you, I will make known my words unto you.

IV. The Call of Wisdom (1:20-33)

B. The warning to those wanting (lacking)

1. A threefold refusal (vv 24-25)

Proverbs 1:24-27

24 Because I have called, and ye refused; I have stretched out my hand, and no man regarded;

25 But ye have set at nought all my counsel, and would none of my reproof:

IV. The Call of Wisdom (1:20-33)

B. The warning to those wanting (lacking) - continued

2. A tragic result to of those who refuse (vv 26-33)

Proverbs 1:26-33

26 I also will laugh at your calamity; I will mock when your fear cometh;

27 When your fear cometh as desolation, and your destruction cometh as a whirlwind; when distress and anguish cometh upon you.

28 Then shall they call upon me, but I will not answer; they shall seek me early, but they shall not find me:

29 For that they hated knowledge, and did not choose the fear of the LORD:

30 They would none of my counsel: they despised all my reproof.

IV. The Call of Wisdom (1:20-33)

B. The warning to those wanting (lacking) - continued

2. A tragic result to of those who refuse (vv 29-33)

Proverbs 1:29-33 - continued

31 Therefore shall they eat of the fruit of their own way, and be filled with their own devices.

32 For the turning away of the simple shall slay them, and the prosperity of fools shall destroy them.

33 But whoso hearkeneth unto me shall dwell safely, and shall be quiet from fear of evil.

Galatians 6:7

Be not deceived; God is not mocked: for whatsoever a man soweth, that shall he also reap.

James 3:13

Who is a wise man and endued with knowledge among you? let him shew out of a good conversation his works with meekness of wisdom.