

“Love Lifted Me Recovery Ministries”

Favorite Proverbs Bible Study - Part 2

Proverbs 18:1-9 Lesson #4

**INSTRUCTIONS: Read the entire section of Scripture in Proverbs before starting to look up the other Scripture verses and filling in the blanks. Pray and ask the Holy Spirit to give you understanding as you read God’s word. Most Scriptures are from the New King James Version.

1-2 **A man who ISOLATES himself seeks his OWN desire**; he rages against all wise judgment. A fool has no delight in understanding, but **in expressing his OWN HEART**.

•**Romans 12:1-2** “I beseech you (beg you) therefore brethren, by the mercies of God, that you present your _____ as a living sacrifice, _____, _____ to God, which is your reasonable service. And do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the _____ of your _____ that you may _____ what is that _____ and _____ and perfect will of God.”

Definition: “A man who ISOLATES himself seeks his OWN desire” – This person is SELFISH and doesn’t want to be bothered by other people and their problems. He also doesn’t take any advice from anyone else, because he thinks he knows it all. **This person is a FOOL, because he or she does NOT accept God’s wisdom from God’s word, but only “looks within himself”, to his own feelings and opinions**, hoping to find wisdom and direction in life. The Lord wants us to **“be transformed by the RENEWING of our MINDS” by the WORD of GOD**.

•**Proverbs 16:25** “There is a way that _____ to a man, but its end is the way of _____.”

•**Proverbs 1:7** “The fear of the Lord is the beginning of knowledge, but _____ despise _____ and _____.”

•**Proverbs 12:15** “The way of a _____ is right in his own eyes, but he who heeds (pays attention to) counsel is _____.”

•**Proverbs 2:1-2 & 5-6** “My son, if you _____ My _____, and treasure My _____ within you, so that you incline your ear to _____, and apply your heart to _____.” (Verses 5-6) “Then you will _____ the fear of the Lord, and find the _____ of God. For the Lord gives _____; from His mouth (God’s word, the Bible) come _____ and _____.”

3 When the wicked comes, **CONTEMPT comes also; and with DISHONOR comes REPROACH**.

•**Proverbs 15:10** “Harsh _____ is for him who _____ the _____, and he who _____ will _____.”

•**Proverbs 5:11-12** “And you _____ at last, when your _____ and your _____ are consumed, and say, ‘How I have _____, and my _____ despised _____!’”

•**Hebrews 12:11** “Now no _____ seems to be joyful for the present, but _____; nevertheless, afterward it yields the peaceable _____ of _____ to those who have been trained by it.”

Definition: “He who HATES REPROOF will DIE” – Again, **REPROOF or to reprove** means to call attention to a fault or sin, with kindly intent to correct or assist. Correction is to bring into conformity

with a standard - in this case, God's standard. **GOD'S WORD gives us the ABSOLUTE standard** that we need to live by. Those who REPENT and get back into alignment with God's standards may receive some "chastening", but **those who REFUSE to change their ways will end up with very HARSH consequences.**

• **Proverbs 13:13 & 15** "_____ who _____ the _____ will be _____, but he who fears (obeys) the _____ will be rewarded."
(Verse 15) "Good _____ gains _____, but the _____ of the _____ is _____."

Definition: "CONTEMPT comes also; and with DISHONOR comes REPROACH" - **CONTEMPT** is the attitude of someone who looks down on somebody as being low, mean and despised.

DISHONOR means shame, disgrace, loss of reputation or loss of respect. **REPROACH** means to bring shame, disgrace and to discredit. All these things are the consequences of WICKED behavior of those who REFUSE to believe God's word and take His advice or obey His commands. Paul, in writing to Timothy, **calls REPROACH "the snare of the devil."**

• **I Timothy 3:7** "Moreover he must have a _____ among those who are outside (non-believers), lest he _____ into _____ and the _____ of the _____."

4-7 **The WORDS of a man's MOUTH are deep WATERS;** the wellspring of wisdom is a flowing brook. **It is NOT GOOD to show PARTIALITY to the WICKED,** or to overthrow the righteous in judgment. **A FOOL'S LIPS enter into contention, and his MOUTH calls for blows.** A fool's MOUTH is his destruction, and his LIPS are the snare of his soul.

• **Psalm 141:3** "Set a _____, O Lord, over my _____; keep watch over the door of my _____."

• **Matthew 12:34-37** "..... For out of the abundance of the _____ the _____ speaks. A _____ man out of the _____ treasure of his heart brings forth _____ things, and an _____ man out of the evil treasure brings forth _____ things. But I say to you that for _____ idle _____ men may _____, they will give account of it in the day of judgment. For by your _____ you will be justified, and by your _____ you will be condemned."

Definition: "The WORDS of a man's MOUTH are deep WATERS" - The WORDS we speak are compared to flowing water, especially a "wellspring of wisdom," which means we should speak WORDS of GODLY WISDOM. The word of God has a lot to say about how we speak, and **what comes out of our mouths, TONGUE and lips.** We must learn to control our MOUTHS and how we speak, or it could damage or even destroy our lives. In Proverbs 12:13-14, it says, "The wicked is ensnared (trapped) by the transgression of **his lips**, but the righteous will come through trouble."

We must allow **the Holy Spirit to help us GUARD and CONTROL** our lips and speech.

• **Psalm 34:13** "Keep your _____ from evil, and your _____ from speaking guile (dishonesty, deceit)."

• **Psalm 39:1** "I said, 'I will _____ my _____, lest I _____ with my _____; I will restrain my _____ with a muzzle, while the wicked are before me.'"

Definition: "It is NOT GOOD to show PARTIALITY to the WICKED" - Partiality in the King James Version, it is called "respect of persons", and it means to judge someone by their outward appearance, and **PREFER one type of person over another** for the wrong reasons; an unfair

prejudice or bias. In the book of James, it addresses the problem of rich and poor people in the church. James was telling the Christians not to prefer or like someone better just because they were rich and dressed in fancy clothes, or to neglect or treat someone unfairly just because they were poor and wearing raggedy clothes.

• **Deuteronomy 1:17** “You shall show no _____ in judgment; you shall hear the small as well as the _____; you shall not be _____ in any man’s presence, for the judgment is God’s.....”

• **Acts 10:34** “Then Peter opened his mouth and said, ‘In truth I perceive that _____ shows no _____.’”

• **Proverbs 28:21** “To show _____ is _____, because for a piece of bread a man will transgress (sin).”

• **Colossians 3:25** “But he who does _____ will be repaid for the wrong which he has done, for there is no _____.”

• **I Peter 1:17** “And if you call on the Father, who without _____ judges _____ to each one’s _____.”

Definition: “A FOOL’S LIPS enter into contention, and his MOUTH calls for blows” – In CONTRAST to the WISE person who speaks words of wisdom, **the FOOL’S mouth gets him into TROUBLE and FIGHTS (“calls for blows” means getting punched in a fight).** A good example of this would be a person who MOUTHS OFF to someone and they get into a bar fight or brawl..

• **Proverbs 12:13-14** “The _____ is ensnared by the transgression of his _____, but the righteous will come through trouble. A man will be satisfied with good by the _____ of his _____, and the recompense of a man’s hands will be rendered to him.”

• **Proverbs 13:2-3** “A man shall eat well by the _____ of his _____, but the soul of the _____ feeds on _____. He who _____ his _____ preserves his life, but he who opens wide his _____ shall have _____.”

8 **The WORDS of a TALEBEARER are like tasty trifles,** and they go down into the inmost body.

• **Proverbs 26:22** “The _____ of a _____ are like _____ trifles, and they go _____ into the inmost _____.”

• **I Timothy 5:13-15** “And besides they learn to be _____, wandering about from house to house, and not only _____ but also _____ and _____, _____ things which they ought _____. For some have already turned aside after Satan.”

• **I Peter 4:15** “But let _____ of _____ suffer as a murderer, a thief, an evildoer, or as a _____ in _____ people’s _____.”

Definition: “The WORDS of a TALEBEARER are like tasty trifles” – A talebearer is one who “tells tales” about someone else, **which means GOSSIP.** These words are only “tasty trifles” to the one doing the gossiping (sometimes called “a JUICY bit of GOSSIP”). To the one who is being gossiped about, **their words HURT and go into that person’s inmost soul and body.** Do you remember, when you were a kid, saying that “Sticks and stones may break my bones, but words will never hurt me”? We all probably said that little rhyme, but it is not really true - **WORDS really DO hurt us! God’s word has a lot to say about the POWER of the tongue - our words - both to hurt and to heal.** You may have realized the power of someone’s words in the past to hurt you: the words of a parent who said you were not wanted, or that you “ruined” their life; the words of other children when you were little; the words of other teenagers saying you were ugly, or you couldn’t join

their group; the words of a parent or teacher saying you would never amount to anything, or you were just a “screw-up” or a loser. **Words have the power to destroy self esteem, or to build up and encourage.** Your own words have the power to shape the rest of your life. You can repeat the words of those who have hurt you or abused you, you can repeat the words of the devil as he plants temptations in your mind, **or you can CHOOSE to repeat the words of God!** God made you **according to His own image and likeness**, so don’t let the thoughtless, hateful, or unkind words of others drag you down and put you under their “curse”.

•**Proverbs 4:23-24** “Keep your _____ with all diligence, for out of it spring the _____ of _____. Put away from you a deceitful _____, and put perverse _____ far from you.”

•**James 3:5** “Even so the _____ is a little _____ and boasts great things. See how great a forest a little _____ kindles!”

•**Proverbs 8:13** “The fear of the Lord is to _____ evil; _____ and _____ and the evil way and the perverse _____ I hate.”

Definition: “PERVERSE MOUTH” – A perverse mouth is one of the things GOD HATES, because He knows how much damage it can do. Perverse means “turned away from, or opposing what is right or good; **CORRUPT**; improper, stubborn, obstinate.” Ephesians 4:29 tells us that the words that come out of our mouth should be “what is good” and for edification. **Edification means to build up - the opposite of “tear down”,** which OUR TONGUES do many times with harsh, sarcastic, angry words, and with hurtful GOSSIP. That is what it means when James says, “See how great a forest a little fire kindles!” Our tongues have the capacity to start a “forest fire” of evil, if we don’t control what words we speak. Just as an actual forest fire can be started by one small match or lit cigarette, our tongues, when not under the control of the Holy Spirit, can cause great damage.

9 **He who is SLOTHFUL in his WORK** is a brother to him who is a great DESTROYER.

•**Proverbs 6:9-11** “How long will you _____, O _____? When will you rise from your sleep? A little _____, a little _____, a little folding of the hands to sleep – so shall your _____ come on you like a robber, and your _____ like an armed man.”

•**Proverbs 24:30-34** “I went by the field of the _____, and by the vineyard of the man _____ of _____; and there it was, all _____ with _____; its surface was covered with nettles (weeds); its stone _____ was _____ down. When I saw it, I _____ it well; I looked on it and received _____: a little _____, a little slumber, a little folding of the hands to _____; so your _____ will come like a prowler, and your want like an armed man.”

•**Proverbs 10:4-5** “He who deals with a slack hand becomes _____, but the hand of the _____ makes one rich. He who _____ in _____ is a _____ son, but he who _____ in _____ is a son who causes _____.”

Definition: “He who is SLOTHFUL in his WORK” – The Book of Proverbs has a lot to say about NOT being lazy (slothful means LAZY), and here is one of the most serious warnings about slothfulness, and that it is the same as one who DESTROYS things. Another word for “slothful” or LAZY person is SLUGGARD.