

“Love Lifted Me Recovery Ministries”

Favorite Proverbs Bible Study - Part 2

Proverbs 22:15-25 Lesson #12

**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.

15 **FOOLISHNESS is bound up in the HEART of a CHILD, but the ROD of CORRECTION will drive it far from him.**

• **Ephesians 6:4** “And you, _____ (parents), do _____ your _____ to _____, but bring them up in the _____ and _____ of the _____.”

• **Proverbs 3:11-12** “My son, do _____ despise the _____ (discipline) of the Lord, nor detest (hate) His _____; for whom the Lord _____ He _____, just as a _____ [corrects] the _____ in whom he delights.”

• **Proverbs 22:6** “_____ up a _____ in the _____ he _____ go, and when he is old, he will not _____ from it.”

• **Proverbs 29:17** “_____ your son, and he will give you _____; yes, he will give _____ to your _____.”

• **Proverbs 29:22** “An _____ man (or woman) stirs up _____, and a _____ man abounds in _____ (sin).”

Definition: “FOOLISHNESS is bound up in the HEART of a CHILD” – This is referring to the fact that each and every human being is born with a SIN NATURE which was caused by the “fall of man” in the Garden of Eden, as Adam and Eve disobeyed God, and the curse came upon the whole earth. Adam passed the **sin nature** to his descendants, and we all became sinners by nature. We are not “sinners” because we commit sin — **we SIN because we are sinners!** We are BORN into this world with a NATURE that is warped and twisted, and we want to do everything **“MY WAY” not God’s way**, and that is the basis of all sin. We see this so clearly in little children: you don’t have to teach them to lie, hit another child, steal another child’s toy, or have a temper tantrum to have his way - it comes naturally! The only human being since Adam and Eve sinned **who was born WITHOUT a sinful nature was Jesus.** That is why He was born of a virgin, and had no human father, because the sin nature is passed down through our human FATHERS, through Adam.

• **Genesis 3:17** “Then to _____ He (God) said, ‘Because you have heeded (listened to) the voice of your wife, and have eaten from the tree of which I commanded you saying. ‘You shall _____ eat of it’: ‘_____ is the ground for your sake (because of what you have done); in toil you shall eat of it all the days of your life.’”

• **Romans 5:12** “Therefore, just as through one _____ (Adam) _____ entered the _____, and _____ through sin, and thus _____ spread to _____ men, because _____ — “

• **Psalms 51:5** “Behold, I was brought forth (born) in _____, and in _____ my mother conceived me.”

• **Isaiah 53:6** “_____ we like sheep have gone _____; we have turned, every one to his _____; and the Lord has laid on Him (Jesus) the iniquity (sin) of us _____.”

Definition: “In SIN my mother conceived me” — This does not mean that David was born out of

wedlock, or that the sex act that brought about his conception was a sinful act; it means that from the time of his very conception, **he was in a sinful state** himself, and separated from God. Adam's deliberate sin brought about DEATH; not only physical death, but SPIRITUAL DEATH. It is this **being dead spiritually that we are all born into** (see Ephesians 2:1-7), and that is why the NEW BIRTH is necessary (John 3:1-11).

● **Psalm 58:3** "The wicked are _____ from the _____; they go _____ as soon as they are _____, speaking _____."

Definition: "The ROD of CORRECTION" — God's word says it is okay to SPANK a child in order to correct their behavior. It's better that a child have a little pain on his bottom, where God gave him lots of padding, than to run out in the street, play with knives or matches, etc. and be seriously hurt or killed.

Children need LOVING, CONSISTENT discipline, correction and TRAINING from their MOTHER and FATHER. If they don't get it; if they get NO DISCIPLINE, or INCONSISTENT discipline (the LAZY PARENT), or are "disciplined" in ANGER (the parents **taking out their FRUSTRATIONS** on the child in ANGER or even VIOLENCE), the children will grow up ANGRY THEMSELVES, many times thinking, "NOTHING I ever do is right," "I can NEVER PLEASE my parents", "I'm a LOSER", etc. This is what is meant by "**Do NOT PROVOKE your children TO WRATH**" - Inconsistent discipline or ABUSE is very DESTRUCTIVE, not only to the child, but to THEIR children, and on down for many generations (see Exodus 20:5).

● **Proverbs 29:17** "_____ your son, and he will give you _____; yes, he will give _____ to your _____."

Definition: "ADMONITION" — GENTLE reproof, counsel or WARNING of consequences of disobedience; ENCOURAGEMENT and advice, especially in indicating **duties and obligations**.

16 **He who OPPRESSES the POOR to INCREASE his RICHES**, and he who gives to the rich, will surely come to poverty.

● **Exodus 2:23** "Now it happened in the process of time that the king of Egypt died. Then the _____ of _____ groaned because of the _____, and they cried out; and their _____ came up to _____ because of the _____."

● **Exodus 3:7** "And the Lord said, 'I have surely _____ the _____ of my _____ who are in _____, and have _____ their _____ because of their taskmasters, for I know their sorrows.'"

Definition: "He who OPPRESSES the POOR to INCREASE his RICHES" – God HATES all kinds of OPPRESSION of other people, but especially to the POOR. The classic example of oppression of the POOR was when **the king of Egypt made the Israelites his SLAVES in order to make himself even richer than he already was**, and to have slave labor to build the pyramids and other grand structures in Egypt for his benefit. The king (Pharaoh) probably thought, "Why should I PAY for workers to build the pyramids, etc. when I can have FREE SLAVE LABOR?" He OPPRESSED the Hebrew people in order to save himself from paying for laborers, thus "increasing his riches" and look what happened to him! He "came to poverty" in that **his firstborn son died**, all the firstborn children of Egypt died, God sent horrible **plagues to destroy their crops and cattle**, and finally, **Pharaoh's armies were drowned in the Red Sea.** Hallelujah!

● **Exodus 12:29** "And it came to pass at midnight that the Lord _____ all the _____ in the land of Egypt, from the _____ of _____ who sat on his throne to the _____ of the _____ who was in the dungeon, and all the _____ of _____."

• **Exodus 14:27-28** “And Moses stretched out his hand over the sea; and when the morning appeared, the _____ returned to its full _____, while the _____ were fleeing into it. So the Lord _____ the _____ in the midst of the sea. Then the waters returned and _____ the _____, the horsemen, and _____ the _____ of Pharaoh that came into the _____ after them. _____ so much as _____ of them _____.”

17-21 **INCLINE your EAR and HEAR the words of the wise**, and apply your heart to my knowledge; for it is a pleasant thing if you keep them within you; let them all be fixed upon your lips, **so that your trust may be in the Lord**; I have instructed you today, even you. Have I not written to you excellent things of counsel and knowledge, that I may make you know the certainty of the words of truth, **that you may ANSWER words of TRUTH to those who SEND to you?**

• **James 1:19-20** “Therefore, my beloved brethren, let every man be _____ to _____, slow to _____, slow to _____; for the wrath of man does _____ produce the righteousness of God.”

• **Mark 4:23-24** “If anyone has _____ to _____, let him _____. And He said to them, ‘Take heed what you _____. With the same measure you use, it will be measured to you; and to you who _____, more will be given.’”

• **Matthew 7:24-27** “Therefore, whoever _____ these sayings (words) of Mine, and _____ them, I will liken him to a _____ man who built his house on the rock; and the rain descended, the floods came, and the winds blew and beat on that house; and it did _____, for it was founded on the rock. Now everyone who _____ these sayings of Mine, and does not _____ them, will be like a _____ man who built his house on the sand; and the rain descended, the floods came, and the winds blew and beat on that house; and it _____. And _____ was its _____.”

Definition: “That you may ANSWER words of TRUTH to those who SEND to you” – This is similar to what Peter tells us in First Peter 3:15, which is “Be READY to give a DEFENSE to everyone who ASKS you a REASON for the HOPE that is in you.” The “hope that is in you” is your **salvation and assurance of eternal life in Jesus Christ**. In witnessing for Christ, and **especially when people ASK you about your faith**, there are times when you can give your personal testimony, but we can’t emphasize enough the importance of **using God’s word** rather than your own opinions, or any other source. Don’t say things like, “This is what WE believe...” Instead, say, “**This is what the Bible says....**” and then their argument will be with the word of God, not with YOUR opinion. God’s word is alive and powerful (Hebrews 4:12) and is our sword. If we try to talk and argue using OUR words alone, it is like having a weapon and never using it (keeping our sword in its sheath). As for our attitude when witnessing and giving an answer to those who have asked us, **it must be “with meekness and fear”**, which means with a humble attitude and with reverence and respect.

• **I Peter 3:15** “But _____ the Lord _____ in your _____, and always be _____ to give a _____ to everyone who _____ you a _____ for the _____ that is in you, with meekness and fear.”

• **Hebrews 4:12** “For the _____ of _____ is living and _____, and sharper than any two-edged _____, piercing even to the division of soul and spirit, and of joints and marrow, and is a discerner of the thoughts and intents of the heart.”

• **Romans 10:17** “So then _____ comes by _____, and hearing by the _____ of _____.”

• **Colossians 4:6** “Let your _____ always be with _____, seasoned with salt, that you may know _____ you ought to _____ each one.”

22-23 **Do NOT ROB the POOR because he is poor, nor oppress the afflicted** at the gate; for the Lord will plead their cause, and plunder the soul of those who plunder them.

• **Proverbs 22:16** "He who _____ the _____ to _____ his _____, and he who gives to the rich, will surely come to poverty."

24-25 **Make NO friendship with an ANGRY man**, and with a furious man do not go, lest you learn his ways and **set a SNARE for your SOUL**.

• **James 1:19-20** "Therefore, my beloved brethren, let every man be swift to _____, slow to _____, slow to _____; for the _____ of _____ does _____ produce the _____ of God."

• **Ephesians 4:26-27** "Be _____ and do not _____; do _____ let the sun go down on your _____, nor give place to the _____."

• **Ephesians 4:31** "Let all _____, _____, _____, clamor, and all evil _____ be put _____ from you, with all malice."

• **Proverbs 19:11** "The discretion of a man makes him _____ to _____, and it is to his glory to _____ a transgression."

• **Proverbs 16:32** "He who is _____ to _____ is better than the mighty, and he who _____ his _____ than he who takes a city."

Definition: "SLOW to WRATH" and "All BITTERNESS, WRATH, ANGER" – Wrath is defined in the dictionary as "**strong vengeful anger or indignation**", especially with the idea of punishment for an offense or crime, such as God's wrath against sin. **Bitterness is anger that is held onto**, and is allowed to fester and be a deep burning in the heart and soul of a person, often as a result of severe pain, abuse and suffering. When James says that "**the WRATH of MAN does not produce the righteousness of God**," he means that **the dysfunctional ways we have of dealing with anger, bitterness and wrath only produce more heartache and sorrow**, not a righteous state of being for either the one holding onto the anger, or for those who are the brunt of someone's anger and wrath. **Bitterness hurts MANY MORE people than just the one who is bitter**. Many family dysfunctions and generational sins begin as a **ROOT of BITTERNESS** in someone's life, which then passes down to their families in the form of more DYSFUNCTIONS, ADDICTIONS, low self-esteem and other problems. Instead, we are commanded to FORGIVE and not take vengeance for ourselves, but leave the vengeance up to God (Romans 12:19).

• **Ephesians 4:32** "And be _____ to one another, tenderhearted, _____ one another, just as God in Christ also _____ you."

• **Colossians 3:12-13** "Therefore, as the elect of God, holy and _____, put on tender mercies, _____, humbleness of mind, _____, longsuffering (patience); bearing with one another, and _____ one another, if anyone has a _____ against another; even as Christ _____ you, so _____ also _____."

• **Hebrews 12:14-15** "Pursue _____ with _____ men, and holiness, without which no one will see the Lord; looking _____ lest anyone fall _____ of the _____ of God; lest any _____ of _____ springing up cause _____, and by this _____ become _____."