

# “Love Lifted Me Recovery Ministries”

## Favorite Proverbs Bible Study - Part 2

### Proverbs 22:26-29 & Proverbs 26:1-16

### Lesson #13

\*\*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.

26-27 **Do NOT** be one of those **who shakes hands in a pledge, one of those who is SURETY for DEBTS**; if you have nothing with which to pay, why should he take away your bed from under you?

•**Proverbs 6:1-5** “My son, if you become \_\_\_\_\_ for a \_\_\_\_\_, if you have \_\_\_\_\_ in \_\_\_\_\_ for a stranger, you are \_\_\_\_\_ by the words of your own mouth; you are taken by the words of your mouth. So, do this, my son, and deliver yourself; for you have come into the hand of your friend: go and \_\_\_\_\_ yourself; \_\_\_\_\_ with your \_\_\_\_\_. Give no sleep to your eyes, nor slumber to your eyelids. Deliver yourself like a gazelle from the hand of the hunter, and like a bird from the hand of the fowler.”

•**Proverbs 11:15** “He who is \_\_\_\_\_ for a stranger will \_\_\_\_\_ for it, but one who \_\_\_\_\_ being \_\_\_\_\_ is secure.”

**Definition: “if you become SURETY for a FRIEND”** – Here, Solomon is WARNING his son (and us, as the readers) to **NEVER co-sign on a LOAN for a friend or anybody**. If that person fails to pay off the loan, YOU will be stuck with the whole amount of his debt, and YOU will have to pay it off. If you don’t have enough to pay, they can come and take away your house, your car, and anything you own to pay that debt. In Old Testament times, a man could be sold in slavery, and his whole family also, just to pay a debt.

**Definition: “Go and HUMBLE yourself; PLEAD with your FRIEND”** – If you have already co-signed for a loan, if the warning is too late, he says to PLEAD or BEG your friend to get out of the contract.

•**Matthew 18:4** “Therefore whoever \_\_\_\_\_ as this little child is the greatest in the kingdom of heaven.”

28 **Do NOT remove the ancient LANDMARK** which your fathers have set.

•**Proverbs 23:10-11** “Do \_\_\_\_\_ the ancient \_\_\_\_\_, nor enter the \_\_\_\_\_ of the \_\_\_\_\_; for their \_\_\_\_\_ is \_\_\_\_\_; He will plead their cause against you.”

29 Do you see a **MAN who EXCELS in his WORK**? He will stand before kings; he will not stand before unknown men.

•**Colossians 3:17** “And \_\_\_\_\_ you \_\_\_\_\_ in word or \_\_\_\_\_, do all in the name of the Lord Jesus Christ, giving thanks to God the Father through Him.”

•**I Thessalonians 4:11-12** “That you also aspire to lead a quiet \_\_\_\_\_, to \_\_\_\_\_ your own \_\_\_\_\_, and to \_\_\_\_\_ with your own \_\_\_\_\_, as we commanded you, that you may walk \_\_\_\_\_ toward those who are \_\_\_\_\_, and that you may lack nothing.”

**Definition: "A MAN who EXCELS in his WORK"** – Whether you have a secular job or are in full-time ministry, God's word tells us to **ALWAYS do our work "As unto the Lord"**, or in other words, as if we were doing it directly for Jesus Christ.

• **I Corinthians 10:31** "Therefore, whether you eat or drink, or \_\_\_\_\_ you \_\_\_\_\_, do \_\_\_\_\_ to the \_\_\_\_\_ of God."

• **Romans 12:10-11** "Be kindly affectionate to one another with brotherly love, in honor giving preference to one another; \_\_\_\_\_ lagging in \_\_\_\_\_, fervent in spirit, \_\_\_\_\_ the \_\_\_\_\_."

**Definition: "Towards those who are OUTSIDE"** – Those who are "**outside**" means **non-Christians - those who are OUTSIDE the church**. We must be careful of our behavior, because "those on the outside" are watching us as Christians: either to see what God is doing in our lives, or else to criticize and condemn us for NOT behaving as godly people should. **If we represent Christ in a good way** to "those on the outside", it is a way to witness to them for Christ, and they may come to believe in Him, too.

• **Matthew 5:16** "Let your \_\_\_\_\_ so \_\_\_\_\_ before \_\_\_\_\_, that they may \_\_\_\_\_ your good works (Jesus working in you) and \_\_\_\_\_ your \_\_\_\_\_ in heaven."

• **I Corinthians 5:11-13** "But now I have written to you not to keep company with anyone named a brother, who is a \_\_\_\_\_, or \_\_\_\_\_, or an \_\_\_\_\_, or a reviler (using bad language), or a \_\_\_\_\_, or an extortioner—not even to eat with such a person. For what have I to do with \_\_\_\_\_ those also who are \_\_\_\_\_? Do you not \_\_\_\_\_ those who are \_\_\_\_\_? But those who are \_\_\_\_\_ God \_\_\_\_\_. Therefore 'put away from yourselves that \_\_\_\_\_ person.'"

## Proverbs 26

1-2 As snow in summer and **rain in harvest**, so **HONOR is NOT fitting for a FOOL**. Like a flitting sparrow, like a flying swallow, so a **CURSE without cause shall not alight**.

• **I Samuel 12:17-18** "Is today not the wheat \_\_\_\_\_? I will call to the Lord, and He will send thunder and \_\_\_\_\_, that you may perceive and see that your \_\_\_\_\_ is great, which you have done in the sight of the \_\_\_\_\_, in asking a king for yourselves. So Samuel called to the Lord, and the \_\_\_\_\_ sent \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_ that day; and all the people greatly feared the Lord and Samuel."

**Definition: "HONOR is NOT fitting for a FOOL"** – "Snow in summer and rain in harvest" is exactly the OPPOSITE of what is good, so this is given as an example of giving honor to a fool - it is NOT GOOD or even natural.

**Definition: "A CURSE without cause shall NOT alight"** – This is another example or picture of something that is not right and good. A curse should not come upon a person without a cause. The picture of a flitting or flying bird is used to illustrate how a CURSE would not come upon a person if he or she had not done something to deserve it. **As believers in Jesus Christ, if we are being obedient to the Lord, NO CURSE from anyone can be put on us.**

• **Galatians 3:13** "Christ has \_\_\_\_\_ us from the \_\_\_\_\_ of the \_\_\_\_\_, having become a \_\_\_\_\_ for us (for it is written, '\_\_\_\_\_ is everyone who \_\_\_\_\_ on a \_\_\_\_\_')."

3-5 A whip for the horse, a bridle for the donkey. **And a rod for the FOOL'S back. Do NOT**

answer a FOOL according to his FOLLY, lest you also be like him. Answer a fool according to his folly, lest he be wise in his own eyes.

•Proverbs 19:29 “\_\_\_\_\_ are prepared for \_\_\_\_\_, and \_\_\_\_\_ for the \_\_\_\_\_ of \_\_\_\_\_.”

**Definition: “Do NOT answer a FOOL according to his FOLLY”** – In Proverbs 26:4,5 these two verses seem to be in conflict with each other, but is that the case? Matthew Henry’s commentary says: “See here the noble security of the scripture-style, **which SEEMS to contradict itself, but really does NOT.** Wise men have need to be directed **how to deal with fools;** and they have never more need of wisdom than in dealing with such, **to know WHEN to keep SILENCE and WHEN to SPEAK,** for there may be a time for both. In some cases a wise man will not set his wit to that of a fool so far as to answer him according to his folly. If he boast of himself, do not answer him by boasting of thyself. If he rail and talk passionately, do not thou rail and talk passionately too. If he tell one great lie, do not thou tell another to match it.” In other words, **there are times when it is best to just IGNORE a FOOLISH person and what they say, and there are times when you must answer,** in order to prevent the fool from causing more damage, because he thinks he’s right. In these cases, a **wise man will use his wisdom for the conviction of a fool,** when, by taking notice of what he says, there may be hopes of doing good, or at least **preventing further, mischief, either to himself or others.** There are a lot of ignorant, foolish people out there in the world, and some even in the church. **We must ask God for His wisdom in how to answer each one,** or if we should not answer at all.

•I Peter 3:15 “But sanctify the Lord God in your hearts, and always be \_\_\_\_\_ to \_\_\_\_\_ a \_\_\_\_\_ (an answer) for the hope that is in you, with meekness and fear.”

•Colossians 4:6 “Let your \_\_\_\_\_ always be with \_\_\_\_\_, seasoned with salt, that you may \_\_\_\_\_ how you ought to \_\_\_\_\_ each one.”

6-12 He who sends a message by the hand of a fool cuts off his own feet and drinks violence. Like the legs of the lame who hang limp is a proverb in the mouth of fools. Like one who binds a stone in a sling is he who gives honor to a fool. **Like a THORN that goes into the HAND of a DRUNKARD is a proverb in the mouth of FOOLS.** The great God who formed all things gives the fool his hire and the transgressor his wages. **As a DOG returns to his own VOMIT, so a FOOL repeats his FOLLY.** Do you see a man wise in his own eyes? There is more hope for a fool than for him.

•II Peter 2:20-22 “For if, after they have \_\_\_\_\_ the \_\_\_\_\_ of the \_\_\_\_\_ through the \_\_\_\_\_ of the Lord and Savior Jesus Christ, they are again \_\_\_\_\_ in them and \_\_\_\_\_, the latter end is \_\_\_\_\_ for them than the beginning. For it would have been better for them not to have known the \_\_\_\_\_ of \_\_\_\_\_, than having known it, to \_\_\_\_\_ from the holy commandment delivered to them. But it has happened to them according to the true \_\_\_\_\_: ‘A \_\_\_\_\_ to his own \_\_\_\_\_, ‘ and ‘a sow, having washed, to her wallowing in the mire.’”

**Definition: “Like a THORN that goes into the HAND of a DRUNKARD is a proverb in the mouth of FOOLS”** – Verses 6-12 are all different pictures of what it is like to deal with a FOOL. **A person who is really drunk will not even FEEL if a thorn sticks him in his hand,** a person using a slingshot would be stupid to tie up the stone in the sling, and so forth.

•Proverbs 23:29-30 & 34-35 “Who has woe (troubles)? Who has sorrow? Who has contentions (arguments)? Who has complaints? Who has \_\_\_\_\_ without

\_\_\_\_\_? Who has redness of eyes? Those who linger long at the \_\_\_\_\_, those who go in search of mixed \_\_\_\_\_.” (Verses 34-35) “Yes, you will be like one who lies down in the midst of the sea, or like one who lies at the top of the mast, saying, ‘they have \_\_\_\_\_ me, but I was \_\_\_\_\_; they have \_\_\_\_\_ me, but I did \_\_\_\_\_ it. When shall I awake, that I may seek \_\_\_\_\_?’”

**Definition: “As a DOG returns to his own VOMIT, so a FOOL repeats his FOLLY” – There are several lessons to be learned from these Scriptures for the Christian.** We’ve all seen dogs licking up their own vomit, and it’s disgusting. That’s what it is like if a true Christian goes back to doing sinful things they did before they got saved. It’s extremely foolish, but it doesn’t mean that person is not saved, unless they keep doing it and never repent. II Peter 2:22 says, “...a sow (pig), after washing, returns to wallowing in the mire” which sounds to me like the pig was always a pig. In other words, an unsaved person was always an unsaved person. They may have joined a church, been baptized, and done a lot of the **outward things** Christians do, but they never had a new birth by giving their heart and life to Christ. **If a true Christian takes a few trips back to the old pig pen, he will be miserable about it, and will eventually repent and turn away from it.** He doesn’t feel “at home” in the old pig pen and the mire (mud) anymore, because he is no longer a pig!

•II Peter 1:4 “By which have been given to us exceedingly \_\_\_\_\_ and precious \_\_\_\_\_, that through these \_\_\_\_\_ may be \_\_\_\_\_ of the \_\_\_\_\_ nature, having \_\_\_\_\_ the \_\_\_\_\_ that is in the \_\_\_\_\_ through lust.”

13-16 **A slothful man says, “There is a lion in the road!** A fierce lion is in the streets!” As a door turns on its hinges, so does the slothful turn on his bed. The slothful man buries his hand in the bowl; it wearies him to bring it back to his mouth. The sluggard is wiser in his own eyes than seven men who can answer sensibly.

•Proverbs 22:13 “The \_\_\_\_\_ man says, ‘There is a \_\_\_\_\_ outside! I shall be \_\_\_\_\_ in the \_\_\_\_\_!’”

**Definition: “A SLOTHFUL man says, ‘There is a lion in the ROAD!’” – The slothful person is the LAZY person, and they tend to make up many LAME EXCUSES for why they don’t get to work.** In verse 15, it says the lazy or slothful person can’t even be bothered, or he is “too tired” to even feed himself. When it says, “**The sluggard is wiser in his own eyes than seven men who can answer sensibly**” it means they may even have convinced themselves that they are RIGHT! No sensible person can convince them otherwise. In the New Testament, the Apostle Paul commanded the Believers in all the churches to WORK for their own bread, and not to just lay around, supposedly waiting for the Lord’s return. What was happening in some places was that those who were not working became gossips and busybodies.

•II Thessalonians 3:7-12 “For you yourselves know how you ought to follow us, for we were not \_\_\_\_\_ among you; nor did we eat anyone’s bread \_\_\_\_\_ of charge, but \_\_\_\_\_ with \_\_\_\_\_ and toil night and day, that we might not be a \_\_\_\_\_ to any of you, not because we do not have authority, but to make ourselves an \_\_\_\_\_ of how you should follow us. For we hear that there are some who \_\_\_\_\_ among you in a \_\_\_\_\_ manner, not \_\_\_\_\_ at all, but are \_\_\_\_\_. Now those who are such We \_\_\_\_\_ and exhort through our Lord Jesus Christ that they \_\_\_\_\_ in \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_ their \_\_\_\_\_ bread.”