

“Love Lifted Me Recovery Ministries”

Favorite Proverbs Bible Study - Part 1

Proverbs 4:24 -27 & Proverbs 6:1-15 Lesson #8

**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.

24 Put away from you a **deceitful MOUTH, and put perverse LIPS far from you.**

•**Proverbs 13:3** “He who guards his _____ preserves his life, but he who opens wide his _____ shall have _____.”

•**Proverbs 12:13-14** “The _____ is ensnared (trapped) by the transgression of his _____, but the righteous will come through trouble. A man will be _____ with good by the fruit of his _____.”

James 3:7-10 “For every kind of beast and bird, of reptile and creature of the sea, is tamed and has been tamed by mankind. But no man can tame the _____. It is an unruly evil, _____ of _____. With it we bless our God and Father, and with it we _____, who have been made in the similitude (likeness) of God. Out of the same _____ proceed _____ and _____. My brethren, these things ought _____ to be so.”

•**Psalm 140:3** “They sharpen their _____ like a _____; the _____ of asps is under their _____.”

Definition: “Put away from you a deceitful MOUTH, and put perverse LIPS far from you” – Deceitful means LYING, so of course, this is talking about NOT LYING, but it is also talking about **any WORDS that come out of your MOUTH that can hurt someone or tear them down (verbal abuse).**

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 probably 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”.

•**Ephesians 4:25, 29 & 30-32** “Therefore, putting away _____, each one _____ truth with his neighbor, for we are members of one another.” (Verse 29)
 “Let no _____ communication proceed out of your _____, but what is _____ for necessary edification, that it may impart grace to the hearers.” (Verses 30-32) “And do not grieve the _____ of God, by whom you were sealed for the day of redemption. Let all _____, wrath, _____, clamor, and all _____ be put away from you, with all malice. And be _____ to one another, tenderhearted, _____ one another, just as God in Christ also forgave you.”

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

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

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

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

Definition: "PERVERSE MOUTH" — A perverse mouth is one of the things GOD HATES!!

Perverse is the same as PERVERTED and means "turned away from, or opposing what is right or good"; **CORRUPT**; improper, stubborn, obstinate.

• **Matthew 12:34-37** "Brood of vipers! How can you, being _____ good things? For out of the abundance of the _____ the _____ of his _____ brings forth good things, and an _____ man out of the _____ brings forth evil things. But I say to you that for _____ idle _____ men may _____, they will give account of it in the day of _____. For by your _____ you will be justified, and by your _____ you will be condemned."

25-27 Let your eyes look straight ahead, and your eyelids look right before you. **Ponder the PATH of your FEET**, and **let ALL your WAYS be ESTABLISHED**. Do not turn to the right or to the left; remove your foot from evil.

• **Psalms 40:1-2** "I waited patiently for the _____, and He inclined to me, and heard my cry. He also _____ me _____ of a horrible _____, out of the miry clay, and set my feet upon a rock, and _____ my _____."

• **I Thessalonians 2:16-17** "Now may our Lord Jesus Christ Himself, and our God and Father, who has _____ us and _____ us everlasting consolation and _____ by _____, _____ your _____ and _____ you in every good word and work."

Definition: "Ponder the PATH of your FEET, and let ALL your WAYS be ESTABLISHED" - To "ponder" means to think seriously and carefully about something. It is the same as to "WALK **Circumspectly**" in Ephesians 5:15-17. "**Circumspectly**" means to look around, be cautious, CAREFUL to consider all circumstances and **POSSIBLE CONSEQUENCES**. **The FOOLISH person**, not having God's wisdom, **does NOT consider the consequences of his actions**, and their ways are unstable and **NOT established** in God's ways.

• **I Thessalonians 3:11-13** "Now may our _____ and _____ Himself, and our Lord _____, direct our way to you. And may the Lord make you increase and abound in _____ to one another and to all, just as we do to you, so that He may _____ your _____ blameless in holiness before our God and Father at the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ with all His saints."

• **Ephesians 5:15-17** "See then that you walk _____, not as _____ but as _____, redeeming the time, because the days are evil. Therefore do not be unwise, but _____ what the _____ of the

_____ is.”

• **Proverbs 18:2** “A _____ has no delight in _____, but [only] in expressing _____ heart (his own feelings and opinions).”

• **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 receive 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 _____.”

• **Psalms 119:38** “_____ Your _____ to Your servant, who is devoted to _____ You.”

Definition: “The Fear of the Lord” – Reverential AWE and RESPECT for God, especially as EVIDENCED by OBEDIENCE to His commands and **DOING His will**. The New Testament equivalent is HOLY LIVING and being FILLED with the SPIRIT. As we OBEY God’s commands that we see in His word, even the simplest ones, **He will REVEAL more of His will for our lives to us**. Why should He give us more detailed information if we don’t even obey His will that is revealed in His word?

• **Psalms 111:10** “The fear of the Lord is the beginning of _____; a good _____ have all those who _____ His _____.”

• **Proverbs 9:10** “The _____ of the Lord is the beginning of _____, and the _____ of the Holy One is _____.”

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

Proverbs 6

1-5 My son, **if you become SURETY for a FRIEND**, if you have shaken hands in pledge for a stranger, you are snared 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 HUMBLE yourself; PLEAD with your FRIEND**. 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.

6-8 **Go to the ANT, you SLUGGARD! CONSIDER her WAYS and be WISE**, which, having no captain, overseer or ruler, provides her supplies in the summer, and gathers her food in the

harvest.

• **Proverbs 30:24-28** “There are four things which are _____ on the earth, but they are exceedingly _____: the _____ are a people not strong, yet they _____ their _____ in the summer; the rock badgers are a feeble folk, yet they make their homes in the crags; the _____ have no king, yet they all advance in ranks; the _____ skillfully grasps with its hands, and it is in kings’ palaces.”

Definition: “Go to the ANT, you SLUGGARD! CONSIDER her WAYS and be WISE” – Ants, as much as we think they are pests at times, are really a wonderful creation of God. God made them to have instincts to gather their food in the summer, so that they would have food in the winter. Solomon WARNS anyone who is lazy (a “sluggard”) that they should do as the ants do, and get busy and gather food for whatever times it may be scarce.

9-11 **How long will you SLUMBER, O SLUGGARD?** When will you rise from your sleep? A little sleep, a little slumber, a little folding of the hands to sleep – so shall your POVERTY come on you like a robber, and your NEED 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.”

Definition: “How long will you SLUMBER, O SLUGGARD?” – Solomon is just full of very PRACTICAL WARNINGS for people in this chapter. Now, he is warning about too much sleep and too LITTLE hard WORK. Nowadays, we might say to the sluggard (lazy person) to STOP spending so much time in front of the TV or whatever other forms of LAZINESS we have. Solomon is saying, “Get a job, work hard, and make something of your life, or you will end up in POVERTY.” Now, we realize there are some people who are poor because of circumstances in their lives that were beyond their control, but here it is speaking to the LAZY person. Another word for SLUGGARD or LAZY person is “slothful.”

• **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 _____.”

12-15 A worthless person, a WICKED man, walks with a PERVERSE MOUTH; he WINKS with his eyes, he SHUFFLES his FEET, he points with his fingers; perversity is in his HEART, he DEVISES EVIL continually, he sows discord. Therefore his calamity shall come suddenly; suddenly he shall be BROKEN without remedy.

Definition: “A WICKED man, walks with a PERVERSE MOUTH; he WINKS with his eyes, he SHUFFLES his FEET” – We’ve already seen what a “perverse mouth” is, but what’s all this about winking and shuffling the feet? It means giving “secret” signals to someone while you are LYING to someone else. Isn’t that what we do if we wink at someone - it’s saying “just ignore what I’m saying” and do the opposite. So, giving these secret signals is a form of DECEPTION and God says it is evil and a sin. God’s word says this kind of person has “perversity is in his HEART, and he DEVISES EVIL continually.”