



WISDOM FOR THE JOURNEY
“A wise man will hear and increase in learning, and a man of understanding will acquire wise counsel.”
 – **Proverbs 1:5**

Men have always needed wisdom. We need help to make decisions about work; all relationships – in speech and conduct; who to trust - or avoid; along with being measured by the plumb line of true character. Wisdom from Proverbs offers insight into the concrete experiences of human life that help us take charge of our lives. Proverbs is about **how to** live out your faith in God. There is no true wisdom apart from Jesus. Fools are those who rely on their own knowledge to navigate life. In this study, we will look and listen to hear God’s voice and see his Son shining through the book of Proverbs. We will be equipped in every way for our journey! So, let’s dig in!

Highland Colony Men’s Roundtable
www.MensTable.com

**WISDOM FOR THE JOURNEY: Knowing the Heart-
 The Seven Deadly Sins - ENVY!**

A man needs wisdom for his journey. We can find that wisdom in Proverbs as we are pointed to Jesus.

May 2, 2024

Scripture: Proverbs 14:30; II Corinthians 11:1-3; Proverbs 27:4; Romans 12:5; Proverbs 23:17-18; Proverbs 24:19-20
Music: Envy - Song from the Movie. Envy - <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=FzwJJGnyruE>
Video: Envy Movie CLIP - A Little Man Who Didn't Like Flan - <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=rFXajFXNWQw>
Resources - GOD’S WISDOM for NAVIGATING LIFE by Timothy Keller
PROVERBS FOR YOU by Kathleen Nielson

THE SEVEN DEADLY SINS: ENVY! – Whose life do you wish you had?

1. _____ - Proverbs 14:30 → Admit the things you envy – other people’s bodies, bank accounts, relationships, and many other things. It robs you of joy and leaves you miserable and dissatisfied.
2. _____ (Exodus 34:14) → God is jealous *for* something. Jealousy is “the proper intolerance of disruptive intrusion and is thereby a mark of love (as the opposite of indifference). Jealousy in its essence is a commitment to a relationship (II Cor. 11:1-3).
3. _____ → Sinful jealousy if not jealousy for but of someone. Envy is wanting someone else’s life. It can literally eat you up!

THE SEVEN DEADLY SINS: ENVY – Is there someone you feel has the life you deserve more?

1. _____ – Proverbs 27:4 → We need the ability to be happy for people who have what we badly want. Otherwise, we live in resentment. We need help to love without envy!
2. _____ → Jealousy can be more harmful than anger. In envy we don’t just want other people’s lives; we resent and begrudge them their lives. In praise you recognize people who are better than you and you rejoice in it. But in envy you recognize people who are better off, and you burn with bitterness.
3. _____ → Envy is being unhappy at other people’s happiness. Envy weeps because of those who are rejoicing and rejoices if they are weeping (Romans 12:5). Jesus modeled empathy (Isaiah 63:9 – “In all their distress he too was distressed.”

THE SEVEN DEADLY SINS: ENVY - The Gospel frees us to enjoy the life we have!

1. _____ - Proverbs 23:17-18, 24:19-20 → Envy stems from 2 preoccupations.
 1. _____ → We are obsessed with what we deserve. Our hearts refuse to remember grace and instead think only of what we have earned.
 2. _____ → We are preoccupied with the present. The solution is to look up to the Lord (23:17) and look ahead in hope (23:18).
2. _____ → Jesus was the most unenvious human being who ever lived. When you realize what he did for you, it will begin to erode your envy. He never complained when he received a life infinitely worse than he deserved.

ACTION: JOURNAL THIS!

1. What do you wish you had that someone else has?
2. What thing or relationship have you been obsessed or preoccupied by?
3. Have you experienced freedom from stuff since coming to Jesus?



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SCRIPTURE

Proverbs 14:30 - 30 A sound mind makes for a robust body, but runaway emotions corrode the bones.

II Corinthians 11:1-3 - 1 Will you put up with a little foolish aside from me? Please, just for a moment. **2** The thing that has me so upset is that I care about you so much - this is the passion of God burning inside me! I promised your hand in marriage to Christ, presented you as a pure virgin to her husband. **3** And now I'm afraid that exactly as the Snake seduced Eve with his smooth patter, you are being lured away from the simple purity of your love for Christ.

Proverbs 27:4 - 4 We're blasted by anger and swamped by rage, but who can survive jealousy?

Romans 12:5 - 5 The body we're talking about is Christ's body of chosen people. Each of us finds our meaning and function as a part of his body. But as a chopped-off finger or cut-off toe we wouldn't amount to much, would we? So since we find ourselves fashioned into all these excellently formed and marvelously functioning parts in Christ's body,

Proverbs 23:17-18 - 17 Don't for a minute envy careless rebels; soak yourself in the Fear-of-God - **18** That's where your future lies. Then you won't be left with an armload of nothing.

Proverbs 24:19-20 - 19 Don't bother your head with braggarts or wish you could succeed like the wicked. **20** Those people have no future at all; they're headed down a dead-end street.

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