

	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>WISDOM FOR THE JOURNEY</b></p> <p style="text-align: center;"><i>“A wise man will hear and increase in learning, and a man of understanding will acquire wise counsel.”</i></p> <p style="text-align: center;">– <b>Proverbs 1:5</b></p> <p>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 <b>how to</b> 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!</p>	
<p>Highland Colony Men’s Roundtable <a href="http://www.MensTable.com">www.MensTable.com</a></p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>WISDOM FOR THE JOURNEY: Knowing the Heart- THE POWER OF WORDS!</b></p> <p style="text-align: center;">A man needs wisdom for his journey. We can find that wisdom in Proverbs as we are pointed to Jesus.</p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>June 20, 2024</b></p>
<p><b>Scripture:</b> Proverbs 6:23-25; Proverbs 5:15-20; Proverbs 5:3-5; I Corinthians 6:13-20; Proverbs 15:11-17; Romans 1:24-32; James 1:13-15</p> <p><b>Music:</b> Lauren Daigle - You Say <a href="https://rumble.com/v4bf8mo-lauren-daigle-you-say-official-music-video.html?gad_source=2">https://rumble.com/v4bf8mo-lauren-daigle-you-say-official-music-video.html?gad_source=2</a></p> <p><b>Video:</b> Power of Words - <a href="https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ND_AIJQdw4Y">https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ND_AIJQdw4Y</a></p> <p><b>Resources - GOD’S WISDOM for NAVIGATING LIFE</b> by Timothy Keller</p> <p><b>PROVERBS FOR YOU</b> by Kathleen Nielson</p>		

**KNOWING THE HEART – THE POWER OF WORDS!**

- PAST: What words have been spoken to you that have most influenced your life, positive or negative?
- \_\_\_\_\_ - Proverbs 12:14, 18; 15:4; 18:21 → You are not wise unless you fully grasp the power of *words*. Words *pierce like swords*—they get into your heart and soul. Sticks and stones can only break our bones, but words can be soul destroying.
  - \_\_\_\_\_ - Proverbs 16:28 → Friendships are all about words. But malicious and hurtful, dishonest and deceptive, and even just clumsy and inappropriate words can deliver a blow to a friendship from which the relationship may never recover. Two kinds of relationship-destroying speech are mentioned: those who “stirs up conflict” and gossips.
  - \_\_\_\_\_ - Proverbs 12:13, 14 → Good words fill us inwardly with good things. Words embody and strengthen thoughts. What you say fills your heart. Managing our speech is a way to get our whole self under control (James 3:2).

**KNOWING THE HEART – THE POWER OF WORDS!**

- PRESENT: Who helps you to hear words of life?
- \_\_\_\_\_ - Proverbs 13:3 → Impulsive, imprudent talk refers to how our words can reveal the deepest recesses of the heart. So while foolish speech can harm us inwardly it can also harm us outwardly, exposing us to the world. According to Jesus, all words—good and bad—are indicators of our heart (Matthew 12:34; James 1:26).
  - \_\_\_\_\_ - Proverbs 18:8 → Words have the power to define reality. Words do not just report facts—they explain their meaning, and that determines how the listeners see the world and live in it. Words create and sustain prejudices, biases, fears, and anxieties that are virtually impossible to uproot. Jeremiah sets a better model (Jeremiah 15:16).
  - \_\_\_\_\_ - Proverbs 29:5 → Our words should be kind and affirming, but here we are warned about *flattery*. It is a word that means to compliment someone not to simply praise something good for its own sake or to build the person up in love, but in order to gain some advantage for yourself (Jude 1:16).

**KNOWING THE HEART – THE POWER OF WORDS!**

- FUTURE: What words are most influencing you as you look ahead?
- \_\_\_\_\_ - Proverbs 12:17; 24:26 → The most critical mark of good words is *truth*. Jesus insisted that his disciples speak every word as truthfully as if they were under oath and had just sworn on a stack of Bibles (Matthew 5:33-37).
  - \_\_\_\_\_ - Proverbs 12:25; 15:1 → The word translated as *kind* means “personal and kind, pleasant and sweet, timely and thoughtful.” Because our words must be life-giving, we must never use truth as a weapon. Our speech’s motive is to be gentle. To be gentle does not mean agreeing, but it does mean being respectful and friendly.
  - \_\_\_\_\_ - Proverbs 16:23, 24 → Honeycomb is a positive metaphor. Kind speech can heal anxiety (12:25); gentle speech can extinguish anger and resentment (15:1); forthright words can heal ignorance and self-deception (19:25, 27:5). We are to use wise words: honest, non-deceptive, kind, gentle, apt, timely, unprejudiced, calm, forthright, and few—then you will be in a position to help any listener.

**ACTION: JOURNAL THIS!**

- PAST:** What words have been spoken to you that have most influenced your life, positive or negative?
- PRESENT:** Who helps you to hear words of life?
- FUTURE:** What words are most influencing you as you look ahead?



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## SCRIPTURE

**Proverbs 6:23-25 - 23** For sound advice is a beacon, good teaching is a light, moral discipline is a life path.**24** They'll protect you from wanton women, from the seductive talk of some temptress.**25** Don't lustfully fantasize on her beauty, nor be taken in by her bedroom eyes.

**Proverbs 5:15-20 - 15** Do you know the saying, "Drink from your own rain barrel, draw water from your own spring-fed well"?**16** It's true. Otherwise, you may one day come home and find your barrel empty and your well polluted.**17** Your spring water is for you and you only, not to be passed around among strangers.**18** Bless your fresh-flowing fountain! Enjoy the wife you married as a young man!**19** Lovely as an angel, beautiful as a rose - don't ever quit taking delight in her body. Never take her love for granted!**20** Why would you trade enduring intimacies for cheap thrills with a whore? for dalliance with a promiscuous stranger?

**Proverbs 5:3-5 - 3** The lips of a seductive woman are oh so sweet, her soft words are oh so smooth.**4** But it won't be long before she's gravel in your mouth, a pain in your gut, a wound in your heart.**5** She's dancing down the primrose path to Death; she's headed straight for Hell and taking you with her.

**I Corinthians 6:13-20 - 13** You know the old saying, "First you eat to live, and then you live to eat"? Well, it may be true that the body is only a temporary thing, but that's no excuse for stuffing your body with food, or indulging it with sex. Since the Master honors you with a body, honor him with your body!**14** God honored the Master's body by raising it from the grave. He'll treat yours with the same resurrection power.**15** Until that time, remember that your bodies are created with the same dignity as the Master's body. You wouldn't take the Master's body off to a whorehouse, would you? I should hope not.**16** There's more to sex than mere skin on skin. Sex is as much spiritual mystery as physical fact. As written in Scripture, "The two become one."**17** Since we want to become spiritually one with the Master, we must not pursue the kind of sex that avoids commitment and intimacy, leaving us more lonely than ever - the kind of sex that can never "become one."**18** There is a sense in which sexual sins are different from all others. In sexual sin we violate the sacredness of our own bodies, these bodies that were made for God-given and God-modeled love, for "becoming one" with another.**19** Or didn't you realize that your body is a sacred place, the place of the Holy Spirit? Don't you see that you can't live however you please, squandering what God paid such a high price for? The physical part of you is not some piece of property belonging to the spiritual part of you.**20** God owns the whole works. So let people see God in and through your body.

**Proverbs 15:11-17 - 11** Even hell holds no secrets from God - do you think he can't read human hearts? Life Ascends to the Heights**12** Know-it-alls don't like being told what to do; they avoid the company of wise men and women.**13** A cheerful heart brings a smile to your face; a sad heart makes it hard to get through the day.**14** An intelligent person is always eager to take in more truth; fools feed on fast-food fads and fancies.**15** A miserable heart means a miserable life; a cheerful heart fills the day with song.**16** A simple life in the Fear-of-God is better than a rich life with a ton of headaches.**17** Better a bread crust shared in love than a slab of prime rib served in hate.

**Romans 1:24-32 - 24** So God said, in effect, "If that's what you want, that's what you get." It wasn't long before they were living in a pigpen, smeared with filth, filthy inside and out.**25** And all this because they traded the true God for a fake god, and worshiped the god they made instead of the God who made them - the God we bless, the God who blesses us. Oh, yes!**26** Worse followed. Refusing to know God, they soon didn't know how to be human either - women didn't know how to be women, men didn't know how to be men.**27** Sexually confused, they abused and defiled one another, women with women, men with men - all lust, no love. And then they paid for it, oh, how they paid for it - emptied of God and love, godless and loveless wretches.**28** Since they didn't bother to acknowledge God, God quit bothering them and let them run loose.**29** And then all hell broke loose: rampant evil, grabbing and grasping, vicious backstabbing. They made life hell on earth with their envy, wanton killing, bickering, and cheating. Look at them: mean-spirited, venomous,**30** fork-tongued God-bashers. Bullies, swaggerers, insufferable windbags! They keep inventing new ways of wrecking lives. They ditch their parents when they get in the way.**31** Stupid, slimy, cruel, cold-blooded.**32** And it's not as if they don't know better. They know perfectly well they're spitting in God's face. And they don't care - worse, they hand out prizes to those who do the worst things best!

**James 1:13-15 - 13** Don't let anyone under pressure to give in to evil say, "God is trying to trip me up." God is impervious to evil, and puts evil in no one's way.**14** The temptation to give in to evil comes from us and only us. We have no one to blame but the leering, seducing flare-up of our own lust.**15** Lust gets pregnant, and has a baby: sin! Sin grows up to adulthood, and becomes a real killer.

### You Say by Lauren Daigle

I keep fighting voices in my mind that say I'm not enough  
Every single lie that tells me I will never measure up  
Am I more than just the sum of every high and every low?  
Remind me once again just who I am because I need to know  
Ooh oh

You say I am loved when I can't feel a thing  
You say I am strong when I think I am weak  
And You say I am held when I am falling short  
And when I don't belong, oh You say I am Yours  
And I believe, (I) oh I believe (I)  
What You say of me (I)  
I believe

The only thing that matters now is everything You think of me  
In You I find my worth, in You I find my identity  
Ooh oh

You say I am loved when I can't feel a thing

You say I am strong when I think I am weak  
And You say I am held when I am falling short  
When I don't belong, oh You say I am Yours  
And I believe, (I) oh I believe (I)  
What You say of me (I)  
Oh, I believe

Taking all I have and now I'm laying it at your feet  
You have every failure God, You have every victory  
Ooh oh

You say I am loved when I can't feel a thing  
You say I am strong when I think I am weak  
You say I am held when I am falling short  
When I don't belong, oh You say I am Yours  
And I believe, (I) oh I believe (I)  
What You say of me (I)  
I believe Oh I believe, oh Yes I believe, oh  
What You say of me Oh I believe

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