

	<p style="text-align: center;">WISDOM FOR THE JOURNEY</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;">– Proverbs 1:5</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 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!</p>	
<p>Highland Colony Men’s Roundtable www.MensTable.com</p>	<p>WISDOM FOR THE JOURNEY: Knowing the Spheres – Marriage – Part II</p> <p>A man needs wisdom for his journey. We can find that wisdom in Proverbs as we are pointed to Jesus.</p>	<p>September 12, 2024</p>
<p>Scripture:</p> <p>Music: Diamond Rio - One More Day Live at the Opry - https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=KTXQdJlsvhg</p> <p>Video: Best Compliment - https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=LrtpRNsdFys</p> <p>Resources - GOD’S WISDOM for NAVIGATING LIFE by Timothy Keller</p> <p>PROVERBS FOR YOU by Kathleen Nielson</p>		

KNOWING THE SPHERES – MARRIAGE – PART II

- COVENANT** – Proverbs 2:13-18 → *How are WE growing in our marriage?* A marriage is a legal bond solemnized by vows. A wedding is not so much a claim of present love as a promise of future love. Vows keep you together. Without a covenant that keeps you together, you will be cut off from the peculiar riches of lifelong committed love that survives through thick and thin. “I’ll be there for you” is what each party declares in a covenant marriage. We are to practice covenantal love in our family.
- LOVER** – Proverbs 5:17-20 → *How do YOU feel loved in our marriage?* Because of your covenant bond, you to stick with each other through all things, to repent and forgive when wronging each other, does the richest, deepest intimacy grow. Then sex becomes the celebration of your life together.
- INTELLECTUAL PARTNER** – Proverbs 1:8-9, 4:3-4, 6:20, 10:1 → *How are WE actively involved in learning and teaching one another and our children?* We see both the father and the mother teaching their son wisdom. Both are to be students in learning God’s wisdom from God’s Word.
- MANAGING PARTNER** – Proverbs 14:1, 31:27 → *How are WE giving attention to the responsibilities of our Home & Family?* Proverbs assumes, as does the rest of the Bible, that the husband is head of the home. This headship will take different forms in different marriages. What a husband and wife contribute will depend on each’s spouse’s gifts and skills.
- FRIEND** – Proverbs 2:16-17 → *How are WE best friends in our marriage?* The word for partner (Hebrew hallup) means the closet of friends. All the marks of friendship—constancy, sensitivity, speaking the truth in love to each other, counseling each other—must be present in marriage. In Christian marriage, we are not just lovers and partners but the greatest of friends.
- EDIFYING** – Proverbs 12:4 → *How are WE honoring and building up one another with our words?* A spouse should edify, build up the other. Indeed, your spouse has the power to make or break your dignity, confidence, and sense of self. Your spouse has the power to massively reprogram your self-image and to heal you of many of the deepest wounds of the past. Do you and your spouse build each other up or more often criticize?
- NOT QUARRELSOME** – Proverbs 21:9, 19 → *How are WE working to avoid arguments and resolve conflict?* To nag is not to do thoughtful criticism, but to do “drive-bys,” making brief caustic or cynical remarks that complain and question motives and character. Sounds like “you always” or “you never.” A marriage is supposed to be a haven of rest and shelter from the world, but the attack of nagging makes you feel you have no roof or walls around you.
- TRUTH TELLING** – Proverbs 19:13 → *How are WE committed to reality and the truth in our marriage?* Nagging is the slow, constant dripping of short, unhappy barbs and arrows, which can wear out the love of a relationship as dripping water can erode even stone. Together you must learn to do truth telling that builds up, even as Jesus does to us (John 17:17; Ephesians 5:25-27).
- GRACE** – Proverbs 11:16 → *How are WE extending acceptance and forgiveness to one another in our marriage?* Kindhearted means gracious. Marriage requires the ability to forgive freely without a shred of superiority, and to repent freely without begrudging. Do you and your spouse show each other grace?
- VALIANT** – Proverbs 31:10 → *How are WE demonstrating courage in our love for one another in our marriage?* Spouses are to build each other up in love, critique each other with truth, and readily repent and forgive each other. Each of these takes great courage. It takes courage to tell the truth and face at least the short-term anger and hurt of your spouse. It also takes courage and fortitude to forgive.
- VULNERABILITY** – Proverbs 31:11 → *How do WE practice vulnerability “being naked and unashamed” with one another?* In Hebrew this reads literally, “Her husband entrusts his heart to her.” Vulnerability is critical to intimacy. You confess your sins to one another (James 5:16) and lovingly restore one another to relationship (Romans 15:4). Three things kill intimacy: silence, secrets, and judgment—the opposite of vulnerability.
- INDUSTRY** – Proverbs 31:13-16 → *How do WE work together to address our financial issues?* Married people do better economically than singles. They stimulate and cooperate in accruing wealth for the family. Both parties are working hard. Despite the likely differences in earning capacities, and whether one stays home to keep house, both spouses are ultimately breadwinners.
- RESILIENCE** – Proverbs 31:12, 17-18 → *How do WE work hard to fight for one another?* Marriage requires lifelong endurance, strengthened by covenant vows. That requires trusting God through hard times and ability to finish what they started.
- OUTREACH MINDED** – Proverbs 31:20 → *How are WE demonstrating a commitment to those in need?* We are to be concerned with the needs of the poor. We are to be generous to and advocates for the poor. Our marriage is marked by social concern for those in need. We are to be known as people who live not just to please ourselves but our neighbors, and especially the weak (Romans 15:1-3).
- HONOR ONE ANOTHER** – Proverbs 31:23 → *How do WE make each other better?* This most “noble woman” has many accomplishments. Yet here we see that her achievements have led to her husband’s ascension into a place of power and influence, and there is no indication of her resentment. To serve someone else’s promotion and success does not compromise your dignity and greatness. Rather, it establishes it.

16. **EMOTIONALLY AFFIRMING** – Proverbs 31:28-29 → *How are WE working to praise one another and deferring to one another?* This woman's children and husband are saying they are all reaping the benefits of her godly life. The husband goes beyond this and praises her. You are to bless one another?
17. **SHEPHERDS** – Proverbs 31:26 → *How are WE engaged in one-another ministry?* The Hebrew means to "teach with lovingkindness." It's the idea of a pastor. We are to be priests and shepherds who lead each other and our children into "the stature of the fullness of Christ" (Eph. 4:13).
18. **HOME AS HAVEN** – Proverbs 31:21-25 → *How are WE creating a home as a SAFE HAVEN?* We are to create homes that are well-ordered, visually appealing, and restorative a place as possible and that takes creativity, ingenuity, and constant work. We are to create homes that are places of order and refreshment for families and friends.
19. **VALUE MARRIAGE** – Proverbs 18:22 → *How do WE promote one's another's spiritual growth?* We are committed to our relationship with Christ. We BOTH practice our faith and are committed to grow and become mature. .
20. **FEARS GOD** – Proverbs 5:15-19 → *How are WE growing in becoming what God designed us to be?* Physical beauty is fleeting. Attraction to the beauty of someone's love, courage, servant heart, humility, joy, and peace should have primary place.

ACTION: JOURNAL THIS!

1. What makes marriage work?
2. What 3 things do you wish were different in your marriage?
3. What 3 things does your spouse wish were different?

"One More Day" By Diamond Rio

<p>Last night I had a crazy dream A wish was granted just for me It could be for anything I didn't ask for money Or a mansion in Malibu I simply wished, for one more day with you</p> <p>One more day One more time One more sunset, maybe I'd be satisfied But then again I know what it would do Leave me wishing still, for one more day with you</p>	<p>One more day</p> <p>First thing I'd do is pray for time to crawl Then I'd unplug the telephone And keep the TV off I'd hold you every second Say a million I love you's That's what I'd do, with one more day with you</p> <p>One more day One more time One more sunset, maybe I'd be satisfied But then again I know what it would do</p>	<p>Leave me wishing still, for one more day with you</p> <p>One more day One more time One more sunset, maybe I'd be satisfied But then again I know what it would do Leave me wishing still, for one more day Leave me wishing still, for one more day Leave me wishing still, for one more day With you...</p> <p>One more day (One more day)</p>
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