

LESSONS THIS QUARTER

- 1) 07 June 2020.....Proverbs 01.....Chartered Waters
- 2) 14 June.....Proverbs 03:1-18.....Direction Offered
- 3) 21 June.....Proverbs 03:19-35.....Compassion Demonstrated
- 4) 28 June.....Proverbs 04.....The Choice
- 5) 05 July.....Proverbs 05.....Following God's Design
- 6) 12 July.....**Proverbs 08-09.....Pursuing Wisdom**
- 7) 19 July.....Proverbs 14.....Living Wisely
- 8) 26 July.....Proverbs 15-16.....Pleasing God
- 9) 02 August.....Proverbs 23.....Staying Sober
- 10) 09 August.....Proverbs 29.....Accepting Discipline
- 11) 16 August.....Proverbs 31.....Finding Honor
- 12) 23 August.....Song of Songs 1-5.....Relational Foundations
- 13) 30 August.....Song of Songs 5-8.....Relational Investment

INTRODUCTION

- True Wisdom comes from God, and God has an open-door policy for everyone to enjoy His Wisdom – BUT few come in to dine

Passage	Comments
Prov 8:1-16; 9:1-11	<p>Wisdom's Invitation</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 8:1-3. Wisdom is portrayed as a woman, and she has a strong voice. She resides on an actively traveled mountain top granting wide visibility, as well as within the city gate for easy & quick access <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ♦ Personification is a common literary device used in wisdom writings. Personification portrays human qualities and attributes for better understanding ♦ Wisdom does not hide herself from those seeking her. Rather, she takes the initiative to get our attention • 8:4-8. Wisdom calls out loudly to all of us – to the naïve and foolish – on her purpose to expound on God's truth • 8:9. BUT, Wisdom only makes sense to those who are not bent on selfish desires, but on the things of God • 8:10-11. Wisdom is better than silver, gold, and jewels. THEREFORE, we should chase her instead of riches • 8:12-14. Wisdom and the Fear of the Lord go together <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ♦ Power to accomplish God's work comes from acquiring Wisdom, Understanding, Discretion, Prudence, Knowledge ♦ Trouble comes from chasing evil desires, being prideful and arrogant, and speaking foolish things • 8:15-16. Wisdom allows nations to thrive economically, politically, militarily, and with righteous judgment • 9:1. What are Wisdom's Seven Pillars? The number Seven often conveys completeness. Scripture identifies the Holy Spirit as being the "Seven Spirits" which are before God's throne (Revelation 1:4) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ♦ Isaiah 11:2 identifies the Spirit as consisting of the following 7 characteristics: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Spirit of the Lord 2. Spirit of Wisdom 3. Spirit of Understanding 4. Spirit of Counsel 5. Spirit of Might 6. Spirit of knowledge 7. Spirit of the fear of the LORD • 9:2-6. Wisdom is portrayed as someone who has prepared a fine dinner and invites everyone to come in. The only requirement is to forsake folly or foolishness • 9:7-16. Words of wisdom to live by. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ♦ v7 is the classic analogy of, "If you wrestle with a Pig, you both get muddy, and the Pig likes it"

Passage	Comments
8:22-31	<p>Wisdom's Origin</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 8:22. Wisdom ultimately comes from God, and it is self-evident, and available to everyone – if people will only pay attention. In the end, no one will have an excuse <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ♦ Christ is the supreme revelation of God's wisdom and power..... 1Corinthians 1:24 ♦ Therefore, believing and accepting Jesus Christ as Lord and Savior becomes the wisest decision any of us can ever make • 8:23-31. God's wisdom established the universe from its expansiveness down to microscopic details; from the forces of gravity to the emptiness of space; from the established scientific laws of nature to the supernatural miracles of God which break those laws
9:13-17	<p>Folly's Invitation</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 9:13: Folly is the personification of sinful, selfish living <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ♦ Folly's name suggests carelessness and a blatant disregard for God's wisdom • 9:14. Where Wisdom takes the initiative, Folly sits in front of the door of her house waiting for the naïve to come to her <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ♦ What makes Folly so attractive? She is the "path of least resistance;" Little thinking is required, and immediate gratification is granted, Future concerns & consequences of behavior are not considered
8:17-21, 32-36	<p>RSVP Required; Consequences Confirmed</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 8:17. If we show our love for wisdom by chasing her, we will discover that we are loved in return • 8:18-21. God wants to bestow us with His blessings more than we want to be blessed • 8:34. We need to stay alert ("watch") for open doors of opportunity. That's some of our testings in life • 8:36. Those who choose not to chase after God's wisdom will only hurt themselves since they love death

CONCLUSION / APPLICATIONS

- Let's stop focusing on the temporal treasures this world has to offer and strive to acquire God's eternal treasures through righteous living and obedience

NEXT WEEK: Proverbs 14. A lot of common-sense axioms are presented, such as: We need to spend money to make money; we are only as smart as the fools we hang around; and big churches are OK.

