

Proverbs Topical Index:

AFFECTIONS:

1. Proverbs 27:20 (ESV): “Sheol and Abaddon are never satisfied, and never satisfied are the eyes of man.”

AGE:

1. Prov. 16:31: “Gray hair is a crown of glory; it is gained in a righteous life.” (ESV)
2. Proverbs 17:6 (ESV): “Grandchildren are the crown of the aged, and the glory (lit. “beauty” [הפארה]) of children is their fathers.”
3. Proverbs 20:29 (ESV): “The glory of young men is their strength, but the splendor of old men is their gray hair.”

ANGER:

1. Contra anger: See Prov. 14:17, 29; 15:18; 16:32; 18:6, 19; 19:11, 19; 20:3; 22:8, 24-25; 25:28; 26:5, 21; 27:3 (NKJV); 29:8, 11, 22
 - a. Proverbs 15:1 (ESV): “A soft answer turns away wrath, but a harsh word stirs up anger.” See also under CONFLICT below.
 - b. Proverbs 17:27-28 (ESV): “Whoever restrains his words has knowledge, and he who has a cool spirit is a man of understanding. [28] Even a fool who keeps silent is considered wise; when he closes his lips, he is deemed intelligent.”
2. Anger against God:
 - a. Prov. 19:3 (NLT): “People ruin their lives by their own foolishness and then are angry at the LORD.”

ANIMALS:

1. Proverbs 12:10 (ESV): “Whoever is righteous has regard for the life of his beast, but the mercy of the wicked is cruel.”

BIBLE:

1. Import of and desire for Bible:
 - a. Proverbs 13:13 (ESV): “Whoever despises the word brings destruction on himself, but he who reveres the commandment will be rewarded.” NGSB, 948: “The word of wise instruction.”
 - b. Proverbs 16:20 (ESV): “Whoever gives thought to the word will discover good, and blessed is he who trusts in the Lord.”
 - c. Proverbs 29:18 (ESV): “Where there is no prophetic vision the people cast off restraint, but blessed is he who keeps the law.” (The NLT on this last clause: “But whoever obeys the law is happy.”)

BLESSING:

1. Conditional blessings:

- a. See Prov. 10:6-7, 24, 25, 27, 28, 29, 30; etc. (Many throughout Proverbs). Esp. 13:21, 22, 25; 16:3, 7, 20

COMPASSION:

1. Causes of poverty:

- a. Proverbs 13:23 (ESV): “The fallow ground of the poor would yield much food, but it is swept away through injustice.”

b. See also under **WORK** below all the entries on laziness.

c. It can be made worse by those who do not have an understanding of God’s wisdom, of His world, and of man. Consider:

01. Proverbs 29:7 (ESV): “A righteous man knows the rights (דָּן [“judgment, cause, legal suite,” Strongs]) of the poor; a wicked man does not understand such knowledge.”

2. Calls to compassion:

- a. Proverbs 14:21 (ESV): “Whoever despises his neighbor is a sinner, but blessed is he who is generous to the poor.”

b. Proverbs 14:31 (ESV): “Whoever oppresses a poor man insults his Maker, but he who is generous to the needy honors him.

c. Proverbs 17:5 (ESV): “Whoever mocks the poor insults his Maker; he who is glad at calamity will not go unpunished.” Cf. also 19:17; 28:3, 22, 27

d. Proverbs 21:13 (NLT): “Those who shut their ears to the cries of the poor will be ignored in their own time of need.”

e. Proverbs 22:9 (mine): “He who has a good eye [ESV: “bountiful eye”] will be blessed, for he gives from his bread to the poor.” NLT: “Blessed are those who are generous, because they feed the poor.”

f. See also Prov. 22:16, 22,23; 23:10-11; 28:8

3. Kings/leaders and the poor: Prov. 31:8-9.

CONFLICT:

1. Proverbs 10:12 (ESV): “Hatred stirs up strife, but love covers all offenses.”

- a. Proverbs 15:1 (ESV): “A soft answer turns away wrath, but a harsh word stirs up anger.”

01. Proverbs 25:15 (ESV): “With patience a ruler may be persuaded, and a soft tongue will break a bone.” NLT: “Patience can persuade a prince, and soft speech can crush strong opposition.”

02. Proverbs 26:21 (ESV): “As charcoal to hot embers and wood to fire, so is a quarrelsome man for kindling strife.”

b. Proverbs 15:18 (ESV): “A hot-tempered man stirs up strife, but he who is slow to anger quiets contention.”

c. Proverbs 17:19 (ESV): “Whoever loves transgression loves strife; he who makes his door high seeks destruction.

d. See also Prov. 18:19

2. Need for confrontation:

a. Proverbs 12:1 (ESV): “Whoever loves discipline loves knowledge, but he who hates reproof is stupid. See also 11:14; 12:15

b. Prov. 13:1: “A wise son hears the instruction of his father; but a soffer does not listen to rebuke.”

c. See also Prov. 13:10, 13, 14, 18

d. Proverbs 25:12 (ESV): “Like a gold ring or an ornament of gold is a wise reprover to a listening ear.”

01. Proverbs 27:5 (my own): “Better is a rebuke that is revealed than love that is concealed.”

aa. Proverbs 27:6 (ESV): “Faithful are the wounds of a friend; profuse are the kisses of an enemy.”

e. Need to deal with strife quickly:

01. Proverbs 17:14 (ESV): “The beginning of strife is like letting out water, so quit before the quarrel breaks out.”

f. Proverbs 25:9-10 (ESV): “Argue your case with your neighbor himself, and do not reveal another’s secret, [10] lest he who hears you bring shame upon you, and your ill repute have no end.”

3. Receiving correction:

a. Proverbs 17:10 (ESV): “A rebuke goes deeper into a man of understanding than a hundred blows into a fool.”

b. Proverbs 23:9 (ESV): “Do not speak in the hearing of a fool, for he will despise the good sense of your words.”

c. Proverbs 29:1 (ESV): “He who is often reprovved, yet stiffens his neck, will suddenly be broken beyond healing.”

4. Proverbs 26:17 (ESV): “Whoever meddles in a quarrel not his own is like one who takes a passing dog by the ears.”

COUNSELING:

1. Depression:

a. Proverbs 13:12 (ESV) “Hope deferred makes the heart sick, but a desire fulfilled is a tree of life.” NGSB, 948: “A common human experience: **frustrated expectations cause a loss of morale and a sense of hopelessness**. This does not imply that instant gratification is good, but rather that **we should honestly strive for desirable goals in life.**”

b. Proverbs 15:13 (ESV): “A glad heart makes a cheerful face, but by sorrow of heart the spirit is crushed.” See also 17:22; 18:14

2. Need for counseling:

a. Proverbs 11:14 (ESV): “Where there is no guidance, a people falls, but in an abundance of counselors there is safety.” See also 12:15; 19:20; 20:18; 24:6

b. Proverbs 15:22 (ESV): “Without counsel plans fail, but with many advisers they succeed.”

c. Proverbs 25:12 (ESV): “Like a gold ring or an ornament of gold is a wise reprovee to a listening ear.” NLT: “Valid criticism is as treasured by the one who heeds it as jewelry made from finest gold.”

d. Proverbs 29:1 (ESV): “He who is often reprovee, yet stiffens his neck, will suddenly be broken beyond healing.”

3. Be selective in whom you listen to for counseling: Proverbs 17:4, 12.

COURAGE:

1. Proverbs 24:10 (ESV): “If you faint in the day of adversity, your strength is small.”

2. Proverbs 28:1 (ESV): “The wicked flee when no one pursues, but the righteous are bold as a lion.”

DISCIPLINES (SPIRITUAL):

1. Examination:

a. Proverbs 16:2 (ESV): “All the ways of a man are pure in his own eyes, but the Lord weighs the spirit.” See also Proverbs 21:2

2. Accountability:

a. Proverbs 27:17 (NKJV): “As iron sharpens iron, so a man sharpens the countenance of his friend.”

EDUCATION:

1. Prov. 17:16: “It is senseless to pay tuition to educate a fool who has no heart for wisdom.” (NLT)
 - a. Proverbs 23:23 (ESV): “Buy truth, and do not sell it; buy wisdom, instruction, and understanding.”
2. Prov. 18:2: NLT: “Fools have no interest in understanding, they only want to air their own opinions.” See also 18:13
 - a. See Wisdom and pursuit of it below.
3. Proverbs 18:17 (ESV): “The one who states his case first seems right, until the other comes and examines him.”

ETHICS:

1. Ethical business practices: See under WORK below.

FAITH:

1. Proverbs 18:10 (ESV): The name of the Lord is a strong tower; the righteous man runs into it and is safe.”
2. True biblical faith is built on a compatibilistic view of God’s sovereignty & our respons.:
 - a. Proverbs 21:31 (ESV): “The horse is made ready for the day of battle, but the victory belongs to the Lord.” (See Ps. 20:7)

FAMILY:

1. Proverbs 14:11 (ESV): “The house of the wicked will be destroyed, but the tent of the upright will flourish.”
 - a. Proverbs 24:3-4 (ESV): “By wisdom a house is built, and by understanding it is established; 4by knowledge the rooms are filled with all precious and pleasant riches.”
2. Proverbs 17:1 (ESV): “Better is a dry morsel with quiet than a house full of feasting with strife.” Cf. also 19:13
3. Proverbs 17:6 (ESV): “Grandchildren are the crown of the aged, and the glory (lit. “beauty” [תפארת]) of children is their fathers.”
4. Proverbs 17:13 (ESV): “If anyone returns evil for good, evil will not depart from his house.”

FEAR:

1. Fear of God:
 - a. See Proverbs 1:7, 29; 2:5; 3:7; 8:13; 9:10; 10:27; 14:26, 27; 15:16, 33; 16:6; 19:23; 22:4; 23:17; 24:21
2. Fear of Man:

a. Proverbs 28:1 (ESV): “The wicked flee when no one pursues, but the righteous are bold as a lion.”

b. Proverbs 29:25 (ESV): “The fear of man lays a snare, but whoever trusts in the LORD is safe.”

FINANCES:

1. Contra love of money:

a. See Prov. 1:8-19; 23:4-5.

2. Money matters (borrowing, saving, etc.):

a. Do not co-sign the loan of a friend or guarantee the debt of someone you hardly know. Prov. 6:1. See also: 11:15; 17:18; 22:26-27

01. Proverbs 22:7 (NLT): “Just as the rich rule the poor, so the borrower is servant to the lender.”

b. Planning ahead is something that is wise--as the ant does. This would include saving and dealing wisely with resources. Prov. 6:6-11; 11:29 (Cf. NGSB note);

3. How people treat the wealthy and the not wealthy:

a. Prov. 19:4 (ESV): “Wealth brings many new friends, but a poor man is deserted by his friend.” See also v. 6, 7.

4. General toward wealth:

a. Prov. 19:10a: “It is not fitting for a fool to live in luxury”.

b. Prov. 30:7-9: Not rich or poor.

5. Saving/planning:

a. See PLANNING below.

b. Proverbs 21:5 (NLT): “Good planning and hard work lead to prosperity, but hasty shortcuts lead to poverty.”

c. See Proverbs 27:23-27. Very good passage on this.

6. On ethical business practices, see entry under WORK below.

FRIENDSHIP (FRIENDS):

1. Proverbs 17:17 (ESV): “A friend loves at all times, and a brother is born for adversity.” See also Prov. 27:10 (NGSB note).

2. Proverbs 18:1 (ESV): “Whoever isolates himself seeks his own desire; he breaks out against all sound judgment.” NLT: “A recluse is self-indulgent, snarling at every sound principle of conduct.”

- a. Proverbs 27:10 (ESV): “Do not forsake your friend and your father's friend, and do not go to your brother's house in the day of your calamity. Better is a neighbor who is near than a brother who is far away.”
- b. Proverbs 27:17 (NKJV): “As iron sharpens iron, so a man sharpens the countenance of his friend.”
- 3. Proverbs 18:24 (NLT): “There are ‘friends’ who destroy each other, but a real friend sticks closer than a brother.”
- 4. Proverbs 20:6 (ESV): “Many a man proclaims his own steadfast love, but a faithful man who can find?” NLT: “Many will say they are loyal friends, but who can find one who is really faithful?”
- 5. One (especially a child or youth) must be careful regarding whom he makes his close friends and who influences him. See Psalm 1:1 and the verses indexed there. Understand this line of teaching in light of Jesus being a friend of sinners (Mt. 11:19).
 - a. Proverbs 25:19 (NLT): “Putting confidence in an unreliable person is like chewing with a toothache or walking on a broken foot.”
- 6. Proverbs 25:17 (NLT): “Don't visit your neighbors too often, or you will wear out your welcome.”
- 7. Friends will speak the truth and confront if need be (see CONFLICT, need to confront, above):
 - a. Proverbs 27:6 (ESV): “Faithful are the wounds of a friend; profuse are the kisses of an enemy.” *Profuse=extravagant, lush.
 - b. Proverbs 27:9 (ESV): “Oil and perfume make the heart glad, and the sweetness of a friend comes from his earnest counsel.”

GLORY:

- 1. Proverbs 25:27 (ESV): “It is not good to eat much honey, nor is it glorious to seek one's own glory.”
 - a. Proverbs 27:2 (ESV): “Let another praise you, and not your own mouth; a stranger, and not your own lips.”

GOVERNMENT:

*See under POLITICS below.

HEALTH:

- 1. Food:
 - a. Gluttony:
 - 01. Proverbs 23:20-21 (ESV): “Be not among drunkards or among gluttonous eaters of meat, for the drunkard and the glutton will come to poverty, and slumber will clothe them with rags.” See also Prov. 23:1-3.

02. Proverbs 25:27 (ESV): “It is not good to eat much honey, nor is it glorious to seek one's own glory.”

HEART:

1. Proverbs 15:13 (ESV): “A glad heart makes a cheerful face, but by sorrow of heart the spirit is crushed.” See also v. 15.
2. Proverbs 21:10 (ESV): “The soul of the wicked desires evil; his neighbor finds no mercy in his eyes.”
3. Proverbs 22:11 (ESV): “He who loves purity of heart, and whose speech is gracious, will have the king as his friend.”
4. Proverbs 24:1-2 (ESV): “Be not envious of evil men, nor desire to be with them, for their hearts devise violence, and their lips talk of trouble.”
5. Proverbs 27:19 (NLT): “As a face is reflected in water, so the heart reflects the person.”

HOPE:

1. Proverbs 13:12 (ESV) “Hope deferred makes the heart sick, but a desire fulfilled is a tree of life.” NGSB, 948: “A common human experience: frustrated expectations cause a loss of morale and a sense of hopelessness. This does not imply that instant gratification is good, but rather that we should honestly strive for desirable goals in life.”

HUMILITY:

1. See 11:2; 16:5; 18:12; 26:12; 25:27; 27:2; 29:23.

JOY:

1. Proverbs 15:13 (ESV): “A glad heart makes a cheerful face, but by sorrow of heart the spirit is crushed.”
2. Proverbs 15:16-17 (ESV): “Better is a little with the fear of the Lord than great treasure and trouble with it. [17] Better is a dinner of herbs where love is than a fattened ox and hatred with it.”
3. See above under COUNSELING, Depression, #3, c., i.e. Prov. 15:13, 15; 17:22.

JOYFUL SOBRIETY:

1. Many throughout Proverbs. See study on book on that subject.

LAW:

1. Civil:
 - a. Need for justice:

01. Proverbs 17:15 (ESV): “He who justifies the wicked and he who condemns the righteous are both alike an abomination to the Lord.”

02. Proverbs 17:26 (ESV): “To impose a fine on a righteous man is not good, nor to strike the noble for their uprightness.”

03. Prov. 18:5 (NLT): “It is wrong for a judge to favor the guilty or condemn the innocent.”

aa. Prov. 24:23b (NLT): “It is wrong to show favoritism when passing judgment.”
See also vv. 24-25.

04. See also Prov. 22:8; 29:4

05. Proverbs 28:5 (NLT): “Evil people don't understand justice, but those who follow the LORD understand completely.”

06. Proverbs 29:7 (ESV): “A righteous man knows the rights (חֵן [“judgment, cause, legal suite,” Strongs]) of the poor; a wicked man does not understand such knowledge.”

07. Proverbs 29:26 (ESV): “Many seek the face of a ruler, but it is from the LORD that a man gets justice.”

b. Contra corruption:

01. Proverbs 17:23 (ESV): “The wicked accepts a bribe in secret to pervert the ways of justice.”

c. How different people respond to justice:

01. Proverbs 21:15 (ESV): “When justice is done, it is a joy to the righteous but terror to evildoers.”

LOVE:

1. Our love for each other:

a. Proverbs 10:12 (ESV): “Hatred stirs up strife, but love covers all offenses.”

b. The merciful, kind, i.e. loving, man benefits himself as well: Prov. 11:17, 25

c. Proverbs 17:17 (ESV): “A friend loves at all times, and a brother is born for adversity.”

MARRIAGE:

1. Proverbs that relate to marriage:

a. 11:22 (ESV): “Like a gold ring in a pig's snout is a beautiful woman without discretion.”

b. 12:4 (ESV): “An excellent wife is the crown of her husband, but she who brings shame is like rottenness in his bones.”

01. Proverbs 18:22 (ESV): “He who finds a wife finds a good thing and obtains favor from the Lord.

02. Proverbs 19:14 (ESV): “House and wealth are inherited from fathers, but a prudent wife is from the Lord.”

c. Prov. 19:13 (ESV): “A foolish son is ruin to his father, and a wife's quarreling is a continual dripping of rain.”

01. Proverbs 21:9 (ESV): “It is better to live in a corner of the housetop than in a house shared with a quarrelsome wife.” See also Prov. 21:19; 25:24; 27:15-16

d. Proverbs 24:3-4 (ESV): “By wisdom a house is built, and by understanding it is established; 4by knowledge the rooms are filled with all precious and pleasant riches.”

e. For those that relate to the need to plan for and think about one’s future spouse and future marriage (and to seek pre-marital counseling) see PLANNING below.

MISTAKES:

1. Proverbs 26:11 (ESV): “Like a dog that returns to his vomit is a fool who repeats his folly.” Learn from mistakes.

OBEDIENCE:

1. Importance of Obedience:

a. Proverbs 28:9 (ESV): “If one turns away his ear from hearing the law, even his prayer is an abomination.”

b. Proverbs 29:18 (ESV): “Where there is no prophetic vision the people cast off restraint, but blessed is he who keeps the law.” (The NLT on this last clause: “But whoever obeys the law is happy.”)

PARENTING:

1. Call to corporal discipline: Prov. 13:24; 19:18; 22:15; 23:13-14; 26:3; 29:15, 17

2. Proverbs 14:11 (ESV): “The house of the wicked will be destroyed, but the tent of the upright will flourish.” *See also v. 1.

a. Prov. 20:7 (ESV): “The righteous who walks in his integrity--blessed are his children after him!”

b. Proverbs 24:3-4 (ESV): “By wisdom a house is built, and by understanding it is established; 4by knowledge the rooms are filled with all precious and pleasant riches.”

3. Proverbs 14:26 (ESV): “In the fear of the Lord one has strong confidence, and his children will have a refuge.”

4. "A wise son makes a glad father." Prov. 15:26a
 - a. Proverbs 17:21 (ESV): "He who sires a fool gets himself sorrow, and the father of a fool has no joy." *See also 17:25; 19:13a, 26; 23:15-16, 24-25; 27:11; 28:7; 29:3
5. Proverbs 17:6 (ESV): "Grandchildren are the crown of the aged, and the glory (lit. "beauty" [הפארה]) of children is their fathers."
6. The need to train our children and help them to be wise (more than just facts):
 - a. Prov. 17:16: "It is senseless to pay tuition to educate a fool who has no heart for wisdom." (NLT)
 - b. Proverbs 17:21 (ESV): "He who sires a fool gets himself sorrow, and the father of a fool has no joy." *See also 17:25.
 - c. Proverbs 22:6: "Give training unto a child according to the command of God in reference to his conduct; even when he is old he will not turn from it."

PERSECUTION:

1. Proverbs 29:10 (ESV): "Bloodthirsty men hate one who is blameless and seek the life of the upright." See also Prov. 29:27

PLANNING:

1. Prov. 6:6-11 draws on the example of the ant to show the wisdom of hard work and planning.
2. Prov. 19:2 (NLT): "Zeal without knowledge is not good; a person who moves too quickly may go the wrong way."
3. Proverbs 21:5 (NLT): "Good planning and hard work lead to prosperity, but hasty shortcuts lead to poverty."
4. Proverbs 22:3 (NLT): "A prudent person foresees the danger ahead and takes precautions; the simpleton goes blindly on and suffers the consequences."
 - a. Proverbs 27:12 (NLT): "A prudent person foresees the danger ahead and takes precautions. The simpleton goes blindly on and suffers the consequences."
5. See also Proverbs 27:23-27.

POLITICS:

1. On Christian involvement in the public square.
 - a. Proverbs 11:10-11 (ESV): "When it goes well with the righteous, the city rejoices, and when the wicked perish there are shouts of gladness. [11] By the blessing of the upright a city is exalted, but by the mouth of the wicked it is overthrown."
 01. Proverbs 16:12 (ESV): "It is an abomination to kings to do evil, for the throne is established by righteousness."

02. Proverbs 28:12 (ESV): “When the righteous triumph, there is great glory, but when the wicked rise, people hide themselves.” See also 28:15-16, 28

03. Proverbs 29:2 (ESV): “When the righteous increase, the people rejoice, but when the wicked rule, the people groan.”

04. Proverbs 29:7 (ESV): “A righteous man knows the rights (דָּן [“judgment, cause, legal suite,” Strongs]) of the poor; a wicked man does not understand such knowledge.” See also 29:14 (a promise to a king who takes care of poor).

2. Proverbs 14:34 (ESV): “Righteousness exalts a nation, but sin is a reproach to any people.”

3. Liberalism:

a. Proverbs 18:2 (ESV): “A fool takes no pleasure in understanding, but only in expressing his opinion.” NLT: “Fools have no interest in understanding, they only want to air their own opinions.”

4. Politicians making promises, but not following through:

a. Proverbs 25:14 (ESV): “Like clouds and wind without rain is a man who boasts of a gift he does not give.”

5. Leaders must not foster corruption:

a. Proverbs 29:12 (ESV): “If a ruler listens to falsehood, all his officials will be wicked.”

PRAYER:

1. The importance of a righteous, obedient life to prayer:

a. Proverbs 28:9 (ESV): “If one turns away his ear from hearing the law, even his prayer is an abomination.”

PRIDE:

1. Proverbs 16:5 (ESV): “Everyone who is arrogant in heart is an abomination to the Lord; be assured, he will not go unpunished.”

2. Proverbs 16:18 (ESV): “Pride goes before destruction, and a haughty spirit before a fall.”

SEX:

1. The perils of lust and sexual sin: See Prov. 5:1-23; 6:20-7:27. *Also would apply to pornography.

a. See also Proverbs 23:26-28

b. Proverbs 29:3 (ESV): “He who loves wisdom makes his father glad, but a companion of prostitutes (רַעֵה זֹנִיּוֹת [ro`eh zonoʔ]) squanders his wealth.”

TESTIMONY (THE IMPORTANCE OF; REPUTATION)

1. Proverbs 22:1 (ESV): “A good name is to be chosen rather than great riches, and favor is better than silver or gold.”

THINKING CHRISTIANS:

1. The need for Christians to use their minds.
 - a. See the intro. to the first section in Proverbs: 1:1-7; 2:1-22 (must involve and lead to uprightness, integrity).
 - b. Proverbs 10:14 (ESV): “The wise lay up knowledge, but the mouth of a fool brings ruin near.”
2. General on learning:
 - a. Proverbs 12:1 (ESV): “Whoever loves discipline loves knowledge, but he who hates reproof is stupid.”
 - b. Prov. 18:2: NLT: “Fools have no interest in understanding, they only want to air their own opinions.” See also 18:13.
 - c. Proverbs 18:17 (ESV): “The one who states his case first seems right, until the other comes and examines him.”

TONGUE (SPEECH):

1. Truthfulness/lying: Prov. 6:12-13, 17, 19a; 10:18; 12:17-20, 22; 14:5, 25; 17:20b; 19:5, 9; 21:6, 28; 25:14; 26:18, 23-26, 28
 - a. Prov. 19:1 (NLT): “It is better to be poor and honest than to be a fool and dishonest.”
 - b. Prov. 26:18-19 (ESV): “Like a madman who throws firebrands, arrows, and death is the man who deceives his neighbor and says, “I am only joking!”
2. Contra gossip and hurtful speech: Prov. 6:19b; 10:11; 11:9, 12, 13; 12:5, 6; 18:8, 21; 20:19; 26:20, 22
 - a. “A healing tongue is a tree of life, but perverseness in it breaks the spirit.” (Prov. 15:4)
 - b. See also Prov. 16:28; 25:9-10
3. General instruction on the tongue:
 - a. Proverbs 10:19 (ESV): “When words are many, transgression is not lacking, but whoever restrains his lips is prudent.”
 - b. Proverbs 13:3 (ESV): “Whoever guards his mouth preserves his life; he who opens wide his lips comes to ruin.
 - c. See also 14:3; 15:2, 7, 28; 16:23, 24; 18:2, 6, 13; 21:23

- d. Proverbs 17:27-28 (ESV): “Whoever restrains his words has knowledge, and he who has a cool spirit is a man of understanding. [28] Even a fool who keeps silent is considered wise; when he closes his lips, he is deemed intelligent.”
- e. Prov. 18:4 (NLT): “A person's words can be life-giving water; words of true wisdom are as refreshing as a bubbling brook.
- f. Proverbs 22:11 (ESV): “He who loves purity of heart, and whose speech is gracious, will have the king as his friend.”
- g. Proverbs 24:1-2 (ESV): “Be not envious of evil men, nor desire to be with them, for their hearts devise violence, and their lips talk of trouble.”
- h. Proverbs 25:11: “A word fitly spoken is like apples of gold in a setting of silver.”
NLT: “Timely advice is as lovely as golden apples in a silver basket. *See NGSB.
- 4. Proverbs 15:1 (ESV): “A soft answer turns away wrath, but a harsh word stirs up anger.”
- 5. Proverbs 16:21 (ESV): “The wise of heart is called discerning, and sweetness of speech increases persuasiveness.”
- 6. On dealing with conflict and need for correction, see CONFLICT above.

TRIALS:

- 1. Proverbs 24:10 (ESV): “If you faint in the day of adversity, your strength is small.”

WISDOM (NEED TO PURSUE AND/OR LIVE OUT):

- 1. See 2; 3; 8; 9; 10:1; 16:16, 22; 17:2, 12, 24; 18:9, 15; 19:8, 27; 22:17-21; 23:12; 24:3-7, 13-14; 26:1 (NLT), 8; 28:2, 26; 29:3

WOMEN:

- 1. Prov. 11:22 (ESV): “Like a gold ring in a pig's snout is a beautiful woman without discretion.”
- 2. See above under MARRIAGE.
- 3. Proverbs 31:10-31.

WORK:

- 1. Prov. 6:6-11 calls our attention to the example of the ant and how she works hard and stores up food ahead of time. It decries laziness.
*See Derek Kidner on sluggard in Proverbs in C. J. Mahaney, “Biblical Productivity,” in Counseling folder, 8-9.

- a. Proverbs 10:4-5 (ESV): “A slack hand causes poverty, but the hand of the diligent makes rich. [5] He who gathers in summer is a prudent son, but he who sleeps in harvest is a son who brings shame.”
 - b. Proverbs 10:26 (ESV): “Like vinegar to the teeth and smoke to the eyes, so is the sluggard to those who send him.”
 - c. See also Prov. 12:11, 24, 27; 13:11; 14:23; 15:19; 19:16, 24; 20:4; 21:17, 25; 22:13; 23:20-21; 24:30-34; 26:13-16; 27:23-27; 28:19
 - d. Proverbs 13:4 (ESV): “The soul of the sluggard craves and gets nothing, while the soul of the diligent is richly supplied.
 - e. Proverbs 16:26 (ESV): “A worker's appetite works for him; his mouth urges him on.”
 - f. Proverbs 18:9 (ESV): “Whoever is slack in his work is a brother to him who destroys.”
 - g. Proverbs 20:13 (NLT): “If you love sleep, you will end in poverty. Keep your eyes open, and there will be plenty to eat!”
 - h. Proverbs 21:5 (NLT): “Good planning and hard work lead to prosperity, but hasty shortcuts lead to poverty.”
 - i. Proverbs 2:29 (ESV): “Do you see a man skillful in his work? He will stand before kings; he will not stand before obscure men.”
2. Ethical work/business practices:
- a. Proverbs 11:1 (ESV): “A false balance is an abomination to the Lord, but a just weight is his delight.”
 - 01. See also Prov. 16:11; 20:10, 23
 - b. Proverbs 13:11 (ESV): “Wealth gained hastily will dwindle, but whoever gathers little by little will increase it.” NGSB, 948: “The wisdom of honest hard work is contrasted with the folly of dishonest gain.” See also 28:20
 - c. See also Prov. 16:8, 16; 20:17; 21:6
 - d. Proverbs 17:23 (ESV): “The wicked accepts a bribe in secret to pervert the ways of justice.”
 - e. Prov. 19:1 (NLT): “It is better to be poor and honest than to be a fool and dishonest.” See also 28:6, 20, 22

f. Proverbs 22:28 (ESV): “Do not move the ancient landmark that your fathers have set.” See also Proverbs 23:10a