

PROVERBS 1:1-6; 2:1-8; 8:12-17

WISDOM

A Study by Mark Paynter

The study that follows is divided into three readings with a set of questions following each reading. To get the most out of your study please read the text through several times and then reread the selected passage again several times before attempting to answer the questions. Answer each set of questions from the passage

Section One

Read Proverbs 1:1-6

Who does Proverbs 1:1 attribute this collection of proverbs to? What is a Proverb? What are the proverbs useful for? How would you say reading and understanding the book of Proverbs will help a person grow?

Section Two

Proverbs 2:1-8

Who is addressed in Proverbs 2:1? Identify at list eight instructions that are listed in Proverbs 2:1-4? Take a close look at each of these instructions then explain what each instruction means in your own words. Do you think the writer's son or even the writer himself followed the advice offered here? Do you that it would be a good thing to follow the advice given in these four verses? If so, what steps can we take to follow these instructions in our own lives?

What will a person understand and find if he follows these instructions (Proverbs 2:5)?

What does Proverbs 2:6 state that the Lord gives and what comes out of his mouth?

What does he hold for those who are upright (Prov 2:7a)? What do the blameless find the Lord to be (Prov 2:7b)? Whose course does he guide and who does he protect?

What does Proverbs 2:7-8 call the reader to be? How can a person be upright, walk blamelessly, act justly and be faithful?

Section Three

Read Proverbs 8:12-17

What does wisdom accompany (Prov 8:12a)? What does wisdom possess (Prov 8:12b)?

How does Proverbs 8:13 describe true wisdom? How does the writer express wisdom positively? If we are to demonstrate this trait what will we hate? What does the word "hate" as used in this verse mean? By turning the negatives listed in this verse into positives identify two traits and two behaviors of a wise person? What steps can we take to demonstrate these traits and behaviors in our own lives?

What further four other things does wisdom possess (Prov 8:14) other than those listed in Proverbs 8:12b?

Identify at least four different words that are used in Proverbs 8:15-16 to describe those in leadership positions? What does wisdom enable people in these positions to do? What does wisdom enable leaders to do today?

What does wisdom love (Prov 8:17a)? How does Proverbs 8:17b clarify this? What does this mean in practical terms? How can we grow in wisdom?