

Proverbs 22 through 26

Like a city whose walls are broken down, is a man who lacks self-control.

Proverbs 25:28

Icebreaker:

Leader's direction to group:

Shout out the first word that comes to your mind when you hear the names on the following list:

- a) Rolls Royce
- b) VW
- c) Mercedes
- d) Yugo

Study Guide:

1. What is a "good name"? (22:1) Why is it so valuable or is it?
2. Read 22:6 How has your understanding of this Proverb changed, or has it?
3. Whose servant are you? (22:7)
4. Rewrite 22:11 in your own words.
5. What does 22:29 mean in our culture today?
6. What meaning do you find in 23:5?
7. Read 23:22-25.
 - a) Who is speaking?
 - b) Explain what vs. 23 means
 - c) What are the outcomes of getting truth?
8. What are the six outcomes seen in 23:29-35?
9. Compare 23:31 and Genesis 3:6, what similarities do you see? What if any is the significance?
10. Rewrite 23:32-35 in your own words.
11. Read 24:3-4. What do "house", "rooms" and "treasures" mean?
12. How long has it been since you "gloated" over the misfortunes of others? (24:17-18)

13. Read 24:27-34. What principles are at work here?
14. Proverbs 25:2-5 discusses how it is the glory of God to hide a mystery and is the job of a king to search out a matter. What does this mean? What if any “matters” have you seen searched out in your lifetime?
15. Rewrite 25:26 in your own words.
16. Combine in your own words 25:11, 13 & 25.
17. Proverbs 26:1-12 offers many observations of a fool. Which one in particular speaks to you? Why?
18. Define in your own words what a “ sluggard” is. (26:11-16)
19. Explain the meaning of 26:20.
20. List the negative human traits found in 26:21-28. What do they have in common?

Sermon Questions:

1. What books of the Bible are known as the books of Wisdom Literature?
2. Fill-in the blank:
 - God examines our _____ (5:21)
 - God sees our _____ (15:11)
 - God weighs our _____ (16:2)
3. Fill-in the chart:
 - The Fool won't go _____ (11:21) The Wise will _____ (11:21)
 - The Fool will be _____ (11:31) The Wise will be _____ (14:14)
 - The Fool and his hope will _____ (11:7) The Wise will be _____ (11:7-8)
 - The Fool and his _____ will come true (10:24) The Wise will have his _____ granted (10:24).
 - The Fool will be _____ (10:29) The Wise will find _____ (10:29)
4. What four things does God do with our sin? Isaiah 38:17, Psalms 32:1, Micah 7:19, Jeremiah 31:34, Isaiah 44:22 and Psalms 103:12