

Week 18 – Questions to Consider

Psalm 52 ~ Psalm 53 ~ Psalm 54 ~ Proverbs 12:1-14

Small Group Warm Up Question:

How has your study of the Bible improved over the years?

1. Do you love being disciplined at home? At work? Why is the love of discipline compared with a love of knowledge? (Proverbs 12:1)
2. Why is being a great wife like being a “crown” to your husband? (Proverbs 12:4) Why would being a poor spouse be described as “rotteness in his bones”?
3. What are some of the other comparisons you found helpful in Proverbs 12 between the wicked/
4. What does it mean that “the work of a man’s hand comes back to him”? (Proverbs 12:14) How can this both be a warning and an encouragement? What other ways have you heard this truth expressed?
5. Psalm 52 is written in response to David hearing the news of 85 priests (plus women, children, infants, and animals) being slaughtered (1 Samuel 22:6-23). Ahimelech the priest had helped David with bread and returning to him the sword of Goliath (1 Samuel 21:1-9), only to have an evil servant of Saul’s, Doeg the Edomite, report the news and then ruthlessly kill the priests, women, and children. In light of that background, how does Psalm 52 impact you?
6. How is Psalm 52 a helpful reminder to us in our own struggles with living in an evil world?
7. How does David contrast himself with Doeg in Psalm 52:8? What does that mean?
8. Why does David finish the Psalm the way he does? How can we grow a similar faith, confidence, and trust in God’s justice and timing? Read Romans 12:17-21. What stands out to you from this passage?
9. Read Psalm 53:1. What do you think the majority of people actually believe about God? Even if someone calls themselves a Christ, why is one’s behavior a good evidence of one’s actual beliefs?
10. Why do some people act different in public places than they do at home? What kind of warnings might parents give their children before going out in public, to a family gathering, to church, etc.? Why? How is it helpful to remember that nothing escapes God’s sight? (Psalm 53:2)

More questions @ www.southfork.church/psalms-proverbs-discussion-guide

www.TrustworthyWord.com

www.Bible.video

Multiplying Godliness to the Next Generation

Proverbs 1:2–7 “To know wisdom and instruction, to understand words of insight, [3] to receive instruction in wise dealing, in righteousness, justice, and equity; [4] to give prudence to the simple, knowledge and discretion to the youth— ...[7] The fear of the LORD is the beginning of knowledge; fools despise wisdom and instruction.” (ESV)

A Message for Parents & Mentors

1. Don’t G____ U____

- Proverbs 22:6 “Train up a child in the way he should go; even when he is old he will not depart from it.”
- Proverbs 13:22 “A good man leaves an inheritance to his children’s children”

2. Prioritize What You Preach & Teach

- Proverbs 4:3–5 “When I was a son with my father, tender, the only one in the sight of my mother, [4] he taught me and said to me, ‘Let your heart hold fast my words; keep my commandments, and live. [5] Get wisdom; get insight; do not forget, and do not turn away from the words of my mouth.’”
- Proverbs 14:26 “In the fear of the LORD one has strong confidence, and his children will have a refuge.”
- Proverbs 31:1 “The words of King Lemuel. An oracle that his mother taught him:”

3. Correct & D_____ Effectively, Patiently, Lovingly

- Proverbs 29:15 “The rod and reproof give wisdom, but a child left to himself brings shame to his mother.”
- Proverbs 22:15 “Folly is bound up in the heart of a child, but the rod of discipline drives it far from him.”
- Proverbs 19:18 “Discipline your son, for there is hope”

May 7, 2023

A Message to Minors

Proverbs 20:11

“Even a child makes himself known by his acts,
by whether his conduct is pure and upright.”

1. Give J_____ to Your Parents

- Proverbs 10:1 “The proverbs of Solomon. A wise son makes a glad father, but a foolish son is a sorrow to his mother.
- Proverbs 15:20 “A wise son makes a glad father, but a foolish man despises his mother.”
- Proverbs 23:25 “Let your father and mother be glad; let her who bore you rejoice.”
- Proverbs 17:6 “Grandchildren are the crown of the aged, and the glory of children is their fathers.”

2. Pay Attention to God’s Warnings

- Proverbs 19:26 “He who does violence to his father and chases away his mother is a son who brings shame and reproach.
- Proverbs 20:20 “If one curses his father or his mother, his lamp will be put out in utter darkness.”
- Proverbs 24:21–22 “My son, fear the LORD and the king, and do not join with those who do otherwise”

3. Listen to the W_____ of Your Parents

- Proverbs 23:22 “Listen to your father who gave you life, and do not despise your mother when she is old.”
- Proverbs 6:20 “My son, keep your father’s commandment, and forsake not your mother’s teaching.”

4. Be Honest, Hardworking, & Trustworthy

- Proverbs 28:24-25 “Whoever robs his father or his mother and says, ‘That is no transgression,’ is a companion to a man who destroys. [25] A greedy man stirs up strife, but the one who trusts in the LORD will be enriched.”

A Message Multiplied

Proverbs 31:1 “The words of King Lemuel.
An oracle that his mother taught him:”

1. Purposefully Evaluate Your Life

- Proverbs 31:2 “What are you doing, my son? What are you doing, son of my womb? What are you doing, son of my vows?”

2. Learn from Others’ M_____: Prioritize a Relationship with God

- Proverbs 31:3 “Do not give your strength to women, your ways to those who destroy kings.”

3. Stay Away from Mind-Altering Addictions

- Proverbs 31:4-7 “It is not for kings, O Lemuel, it is not for kings to drink wine, or for rulers to take strong drink, [5] lest they drink and forget what has been decreed and pervert the rights of all the afflicted. [6] Give strong drink to the one who is perishing, and wine to those in bitter distress; [7] let them drink and forget their poverty and remember their misery no more.”

4. Speak Up for J_____, Biblically

- Proverbs 31:8 “Open your mouth for the mute, for the rights of all who are destitute.”

5. Make a Difference, Biblically

- Proverbs 31:9 “Open your mouth, judge righteously, defend the rights of the poor and needy.”

This Next Week’s Psalms & Proverbs Reading Plan:

- Week 19: Psalm 55 ~ Psalm 56 ~ Psalm 57 ~ Proverbs 12:15-28
- **Hope & Purpose in Jesus:** www.southfork.church/jesus
- **Daily Verse by Text Message:** remind.com/join/sfbcdevo
- **Our Plan:** www.southfork.church/2023-bible-reading-plan

Multiplying Godliness to the Next Generation

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Questions for Teachers

- What are your greatest joys in public education?
- What are your greatest challenges in public education?
- How has education changed over the course of your career?
- How have you seen families and parenting change?
- What are some emerging strengths you’ve noticed along children?
- What are some emerging challenges you’ve noticed among children?
- How did the season of COVID help and hurt the education of our children?
- What are some ways Christians can have a positive impact on the children of our community?
- If you could say one thing to young parents today, what would it be?
- If you could say one thing to an elementary school student today, what would it be? ES parent?
- If you could say one thing to a middle school student today, what would it be? MS parent?
- If you could say one thing to a high school student today, what would it be? HS parent?
- What are some of the greatest challenges in home school education?
- What are some of the greatest joys in home school education?
- Biggest hope for the future of education in our area?
- Biggest concern for the future of education in our area?