

# “Fountain of Life” The Book of Proverbs

Summer 2020 (June 14 - August 30)

**Series Overview:** Are you feeling it? With all that’s happening in our world, stress levels are high, and many of us are feeling weary... exhausted...confused. This summer, let’s pause and allow God to refresh our souls through the 3,000-year-old wisdom of Proverbs. Throughout the book, wisdom is referred to as “the fountain of life”—exactly what we need when we’re empty and dry. Come and drink deeply from the fountain of life.

Topics that we’ll be addressing include: Pursuing Wisdom, Humility & Pride, Good Sex/Bad Sex, The Power of Words, Making Decisions, Wealth & Greed, Diligence & Laziness, Good Friends/Bad Friends, The Wisdom of Compassion, Leading Wisely, Controlling Anger, and Everything in Moderation.

## LECTIO DIVINA

This summer, we encourage you and your group to use Lectio Divina to discuss the Sermon message.

**Directions for Lectio Divina:** Use the provided passages to guide your group in a discussion of the sermon topic.

1. Have one person read the passage slowly.
2. Meditate on the passage silently for one minute.
3. Share key words, phrases, situations, or emotions you notice in the passage.
4. Repeat steps 1-3, reading with fresh eyes, and share any new observations or insights.
5. When done, discuss HOW you can apply what you learned from the Scriptures and your group discussion. Be specific. Share one or two action steps you will take. Consider what you can do as an individual, and also together as a Small Group. End your time in prayer, asking the Lord to direct your steps and for His Spirit to empower you in action.

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## WEEK 9: The Wisdom of Compassion – Proverbs 4:23

### Proverbs 4:23

Above all else, guard your heart,  
for everything you do flows from it.

## **Supplementary Scriptures**

### **Proverbs 14:21**

It is a sin to despise one's neighbor, but blessed is the one who is kind to the needy.

### **Proverbs 17:5**

Whoever mocks the poor shows contempt for their Maker; whoever gloats over disaster will not go unpunished.

### **Proverbs 14:31**

Whoever oppresses the poor shows contempt for their Maker, but whoever is kind to the needy honors God.

### **Proverbs 21:13**

Whoever shuts their ears to the cry of the poor will also cry out and not be answered.

### **Proverbs 28:27**

Those who give to the poor will lack nothing, but those who close their eyes to them receive many curses.

### **Matthew 25:41-45**

“Then he will say to those on his left, ‘Depart from me, you who are cursed, into the eternal fire prepared for the devil and his angels. <sup>42</sup> For I was hungry and you gave me nothing to eat, I was thirsty and you gave me nothing to drink, <sup>43</sup> I was a stranger and you did not invite me in, I needed clothes and you did not clothe me, I was sick and in prison and you did not look after me.’

<sup>44</sup> “They also will answer, ‘Lord, when did we see you hungry or thirsty or a stranger or needing clothes or sick or in prison, and did not help you?’

<sup>45</sup> “He will reply, ‘Truly I tell you, whatever you did not do for one of the least of these, you did not do for me.’

### **1 Corinthians 4:7**

For who makes you different from anyone else? What do you have that you did not receive? And if you did receive it, why do you boast as though you did not?

### **Proverbs 28:27**

Those who give to the poor will lack nothing, but those who close their eyes to them receive many curses.

### **Proverbs 31:20**

She opens her arms to the poor and extends her hands to the needy.