



KING'S CHAPEL

Daily Devotional - Proverbs Study

Week 3 - Day 2

Approaching God

Psalm 5:11-12 - *But let all who take refuge in you be glad; let them ever sing for joy. Spread your protection over them, that those who love your name may rejoice in you. Surely, LORD, you bless the righteous; you surround them with your favor as with a shield.*

Prayer: As you begin your time with the Lord today, settle in and begin by slowly reading through Psalm 5:11-12. What would it mean to take refuge in God today? Where do you need the Lord's presence and protection? Talk to the Lord about these things in your own words and then start today's reading.

Bible Reading, Study & Meditation - Proverbs 6:1-19

Passage Introduction: Warnings against Debt, Apathy & Discord

This section gives instruction in wise dealing that takes into account both the nature of a situation and the sort of person involved. The instruction, which refers to types of people with increasing responsibility for their plight, includes: a warning against putting up security because it can lead to harm, an exhortation of the sluggard to follow the example of the ant lest he come to ruin, and a description of the sort of characteristics that the Lord hates.

Proverbs 6:1-19 - ESV

1 My son, if you have put up security for your neighbor, have given your pledge for a stranger, **2** if you are snared in the words of your mouth, caught in the words of your mouth, **3** then do this, my son, and save yourself, for you have come into the hand of your neighbor: go, hasten, and plead urgently with your neighbor. **4** Give your eyes no sleep and your eyelids no slumber; **5** save yourself like a gazelle from the hand of the hunter, like a bird from the hand of the fowler. **6** Go to the ant, O sluggard; consider her ways, and be wise. **7** Without having any chief, officer, or ruler, **8** she prepares her bread in summer and gathers her food in harvest. **9** How long will you lie there, O sluggard? When will you arise from your sleep? **10** A little sleep, a little slumber, a little folding of the hands to rest, **11** and poverty will come upon you like a robber, and want like an armed man. **12** A worthless person, a wicked man, goes about with crooked speech, **13** winks with his eyes, signals with his feet, points with his finger, **14** with perverted heart devises evil, continually sowing discord; **15** therefore calamity will come upon him suddenly; in a moment he will be broken beyond healing. **16** There are six things that the LORD hates, seven that are an abomination to him: **17** haughty eyes, a lying tongue, and hands that shed innocent blood,

18 a heart that devises wicked plans, feet that make haste to run to evil, **19** a false witness who breathes out lies, and one who sows discord among brothers.

Daily Study Questions

Imagine that a young man has agreed to put up money for a business deal with someone he hardly knows—a stranger. He is admonished for entering into an unwise, overly risky financial transaction (11:15, 17:18, 20:16, 22:26–27). When it comes to financial dealings, “Scripture establishes prudence as one of the virtues. . . . This does not banish generosity; it is nearer to banishing gambling.” Many supposedly financial deals are so risky and imprudent that they are as much gambling as playing a slot machine. The moral problems with gambling, in any form, are many. It is an effort to do an “end run” around the hard work, due diligence, and time investment that ordinarily is required to make wealth grow. Magic is condemned in the Bible because it is an effort to get power without discipleship, so we don’t have to rely on God. Gambling is the same. Any money that we really can afford to essentially throw away on a risk we should instead be willing to give away to help others, which is always a sure thing. Jesus “threw away” his wealth and power, but to enrich us—not himself (Romans 15:1–3a).

Tim Keller - Wisdom - Proverbs

- What are the varied forms of gambling available to us in our society? Have you ever been drawn into any of them?
- What 1 or 2 principles do you observe in this section?
- When in your life or the life of someone else have you seen this observation illustrated?
- How can you put this observation or principle into practice?

Close in Prayer:

Lord, make me prudent with regard to money, not prone to impulsive or risky endeavors. At the same time, give me foresight and a lack of fear and worry about money, knowing that you supply me with what I need even as you do the birds and flowers (Matthew 6:25–34). Amen.