

Dig Deeper into “The Fear of the Lord” - for personal use and Life Groups...

Introducing Proverbs, Introducing Wisdom

Proverbs 1:1-9

1) Concise wisdom (v1-6, 8-9)

...the surprising nature of Proverbs



2) Practical wisdom (v1-6,8-9)

...the incredible value of Proverbs



3) Spiritual wisdom (v7)

...the absolute key to Proverbs



“The fear of the Lord is the beginning of knowledge, but fools despise wisdom and instruction”. Prov 1:7

1) What do people think of when they hear of “fear of the Lord” today? Is it positive?

2) What is the “Fear of the Lord”? How do you get your head around it?

- Proverbs 22:4
- Proverbs 31:30
- Isaiah 11:2-3
- Acts 9:31

3) How do you get it? What is it associated with?

- Proverbs 15:3
- Psalm 34:11 (and Psalm 19:9 in context)
- Psalm 86:11
- Psalm 111:10

4) What are its benefits? Can you illustrate these in practice?

- Proverbs 1:7
- Proverbs 16:6
- Proverbs 29:25
- 2 Cor 7:1

5) Pick 2 of these application questions to ponder....

- a) Think of a bad decision earlier in life. What would more “fear of the Lord” have looked like?
- b) “Without the fear of God our society is becoming more neurotic” (Mike Reeves*)... discuss!
- c) Why can a non- Christian (even streetwise, canny or clever) never be truly wise?
- d) What two things can you commit to doing this term to grow in “Fear of the Lord”?

Resources...

- **Quotes:** *“Fear of the Lord is the whole worship of God”- John Owen (17th Century),*
“Fear of the Lord is love for God as God”- Joel Beeke (21st Century)
- The penultimate verse of hymn [“Through all the Changing Scenes of Life”](#) wonderfully reminds us:
*Fear Him, ye saints, and you will then Have nothing else to fear;
Make you His service your delight; Your wants shall be His care.*
- A 22min **video** here from Mike Reeves on “the Fear of the Lord” - a great introduction to a longer series ligonier.org/learn/series/the-fear-of-the-lord/not-all-fear-is-the-same. The *quote above is at 14:30
- Mike Reeves has also written two **books** on the Fear of the Lord:
 - [“Rejoice and Tremble”](#) - slightly more stretching
 - [“What does it mean to fear the Lord”](#) - slightly shorter.

