

Purposes/Uses Of The Book

(Prov. 1:2-6)

- 2 To know wisdom and instruction, To perceive the words of understanding, 3 To receive the instruction of wisdom, Justice, judgment, and equity; 4 To give prudence to the simple, To the young man knowledge and discretion-- 5 A wise [man] will hear and increase learning, And a man of understanding will attain wise counsel, 6 To understand a proverb and an enigma, The words of the wise and their riddles.

Made For Application

- [Jas 1:21-25 NKJV] 21 Therefore lay aside all filthiness and overflow of wickedness, and receive with meekness the implanted word, which is able to save your souls. 22 But be doers of the word, and not hearers only, deceiving yourselves. 23 For if anyone is a hearer of the word and not a doer, he is like a man observing his natural face in a mirror; 24 for he observes himself, goes away, and immediately forgets what kind of man he was. 25 But he who looks into the perfect law of liberty and continues [in it], and is not a forgetful hearer but a doer of the work, this one will be blessed in what he does.

Man's Accountability

- [Pro 19:16 NKJV] 16 He who keeps the commandment keeps his soul, [But] **he who is careless of his ways will die.**
- [Pro 24:8-12 NKJV] 8 He who plots to do evil Will be called a schemer. 9 The devising of foolishness [is] sin, And the scoffer [is] an abomination to men. 10 [If] you faint in the day of adversity, Your strength [is] small. 11 Deliver [those who] are drawn toward death, And hold back [those] stumbling to the slaughter. 12 **If you say, "Surely we did not know this," Does not He who weighs the hearts consider [it]? He who keeps your soul, does He [not] know [it]? And will He [not] render to [each] man according to his deeds?**

Man's Accountability

- [Pro 20:9 NKJV] 9 Who can say, "I have made my heart clean, I am pure from my sin"?
- [Pro 16:17 NKJV] 17 The highway of the upright [is] to depart from evil; **He who keeps his way preserves his soul.**
- [Pro 28:18 NKJV] 18 Whoever walks blamelessly will be saved, **But [he who is] perverse [in his] ways will suddenly fall.**

Man's Accountability

- **[Pro 21:12 NKJV] 12 The righteous [God] wisely considers the house of the wicked, Overthrowing the wicked for [their] wickedness.**
- **[Pro 21:27 NKJV] 27 The sacrifice of the wicked [is] an abomination; How much more [when] he brings it with wicked intent!**

Man's Accountability

- [Pro 28:9-14 NKJV] 9 One who **turns away his ear** from hearing the law, **Even his prayer [is] an abomination.** 10 Whoever causes the upright to go astray in an evil way, He himself will fall into his own pit; But the blameless will inherit good. 11 The rich man [is] wise in his own eyes, But the poor who has understanding searches him out. 12 When the righteous rejoice, [there is] great glory; But when the wicked arise, men hide themselves. 13 **He who covers his sins will not prosper, But whoever confesses and forsakes [them] will have mercy.** 14 Happy [is] the man who is always reverent, But he who hardens his heart will fall into calamity.

Proverbs

Friendship

Characteristics Of Good Friends

- Friends love

Friends Love

- [Pro 17:17 NKJV] 17 A friend loves at all times,
And a brother is born for adversity.

Characteristics Of Good Friends

- Friends love
- **Friends forgive**

Friends Forgive

- [Pro 17:9 NKJV] 9 He who covers a transgression seeks love, But he who repeats a matter separates friends.

Characteristics Of Good Friends

- Friends love
- Friends forgive
- **Friends edify and promote growth**

Friends Edify & Promote Growth

- [Pro 27:17 NKJV] 17 [As] iron sharpens iron, So a man sharpens the countenance of his friend.
- [Pro 27:9-10 NKJV] 9 Ointment and perfume delight the heart, And the sweetness of a man's friend [gives delight] by hearty counsel.
10 Do not forsake your own friend or your father's friend, Nor go to your brother's house in the day of your calamity; Better [is] a neighbor nearby than a brother far away.
- [Pro 27:5-6 NKJV] 5 Open rebuke [is] better Than love carefully concealed. 6 Faithful [are] the wounds of a friend, But the kisses of an enemy [are] deceitful.

Characteristics Of Good Friends

- Friends love
- Friends forgive
- Friends edify and promote growth

Characteristics Of Bad Friends

- **Distasteful speech**

Distasteful Speech

- [Pro 11:12 NKJV] 12 He who is devoid of wisdom despises his neighbor, But a man of understanding holds his peace.
- [Pro 17:21 NKJV] 21 He who begets a scoffer [does so] to his sorrow, And the father of a fool has no joy.
- [Pro 24:28-29 NKJV] 28 Do not be a witness against your neighbor without cause, For would you deceive with your lips? 29 Do not say, "I will do to him just as he has done to me; I will render to the man according to his work."

Characteristics Of Bad Friends

- Distasteful speech
- **Anger**

Anger

- [Pro 22:24-25 NKJV] 24 Make no friendship with an angry man, And with a furious man do not go, 25 Lest you learn his ways And set a snare for your soul.

Characteristics Of Bad Friends

- Distasteful speech
- Anger
- **Those who desire evil**

Those Who Desire Evil

- [Pro 21:10 NKJV] 10 The soul of the wicked desires evil; His neighbor finds no favor in his eyes.
- [Pro 24:1-2 NKJV] 1 Do not be envious of evil men, Nor desire to be with them; 2 For their heart devises violence, And their lips talk of troublemaking.
- [Pro 17:15 NKJV] 15 He who justifies the wicked, and he who condemns the just, Both of them alike [are] an abomination to the LORD.
- [Pro 17:13 NKJV] 13 Whoever rewards evil for good, Evil will not depart from his house.

Characteristics Of Bad Friends

- Distasteful speech
- Anger
- Those who desire evil
- **Thieves**

Thieves

- [Pro 29:24 NKJV] 24 Whoever is a partner with a thief hates his own life; He swears to tell the truth, but reveals nothing.

Characteristics Of Bad Friends

- Distasteful speech
- Anger
- Those who desire evil
- Thieves
- **Over-indulgent**

Over-Indulgent

- [Pro 28:7 NKJV] 7 Whoever keeps the law [is] a discerning son, But a companion of gluttons shames his father.

Characteristics Of Bad Friends

- Distasteful speech
- Anger
- Those who desire evil
- Thieves
- Over-indulgent
- **Shows Favoritism\Is a flatterer**

Favoritism & Flattery

- [Pro 28:21 NKJV] 21 To show partiality [is] not good, Because for a piece of bread a man will transgress.
- [Pro 21:14 NKJV] 14 A gift in secret pacifies anger, And a bribe behind the back, strong wrath.
- [Pro 19:6-7 NKJV] 6 Many entreat the favor of the nobility, And every man [is] a friend to one who gives gifts. 7 All the brothers of the poor hate him; How much more do his friends go far from him! He may pursue [them with] words, [yet] they abandon [him].
- [Pro 29:5 NKJV] 5 A man who flatters his neighbor Spreads a net for his feet.

Characteristics Of Bad Friends

- Distasteful speech
- Anger
- Those who desire evil
- Thieves
- Over-indulgent
- Shows Favoritism\Is a flatterer

Creating, Maintaining & Repairing Friendships

- **Be friendly**

Be Friendly

- [Pro 18:24 NKJV] 24 A man [who has] friends must himself be friendly, But there is a friend [who] sticks closer than a brother.

Creating, Maintaining & Repairing Friendships

- Be friendly
- **Have pleasant speech**

Have Pleasant Speech

- [Pro 16:23-24 NKJV] 23 The heart of the wise teaches his mouth, And adds learning to his lips. 24 Pleasant words [are like] a honeycomb, Sweetness to the soul and health to the bones.

Creating, Maintaining & Repairing Friendships

- Be friendly
- Have pleasant speech
- **Build trusting, long-term relationships**

Build Trusting, Long-Term Relationships

- [Pro 21:22 NKJV] 22 A wise [man] scales the city of the mighty, And brings down the trusted stronghold.
- [Pro 18:19 NKJV] 19 A brother offended [is harder to win] than a strong city, And contentions [are] like the bars of a castle.

Creating, Maintaining & Repairing Friendships

- Be friendly
- Have pleasant speech
- Build trusting, long-term relationships
- **Don't hope for the worst**

Don't Hope For The Worst

- [Pro 24:17-18 NKJV] 17 Do not rejoice when your enemy falls, And do not let your heart be glad when he stumbles; 18 Lest the LORD see [it], and it displease Him, And He turn away His wrath from him.

Creating, Maintaining & Repairing Friendships

- Be friendly
- Have pleasant speech
- Build trusting, long-term relationships
- Don't hope for the worst
- **Be considerate and dependable**

Be Considerate & Dependable

- [Pro 25:17-22 NKJV] 17 Seldom set foot in your neighbor's house, Lest he become weary of you and hate you. 18 A man who bears false witness against his neighbor [Is like] a club, a sword, and a sharp arrow. 19 Confidence in an unfaithful [man] in time of trouble [Is like] a bad tooth and a foot out of joint. 20 [Like] one who takes away a garment in cold weather, [And like] vinegar on soda, [Is] one who sings songs to a heavy heart. 21 If your enemy is hungry, give him bread to eat; And if he is thirsty, give him water to drink; 22 For [so] you will heap coals of fire on his head, And the LORD will reward you.

Creating, Maintaining & Repairing Friendships

- Be friendly
- Have pleasant speech
- Build trusting, long-term relationships
- Don't hope for the worst
- Be considerate and dependable