

WISDOM/PROVERBS

Definition: *the skill to use what one knows to solve problems and get things done, including the element of excellence, shown in doing the best thing, in the best way, with the best possible results.*

A. SOURCE

- Proverbs** - "...Proverbs...to know wisdom..." 1:1,2
God - "For the LORD gives wisdom:" 2:6
The fear of the LORD - "The fear of the LORD is the beginning of wisdom:" 9:10
Fathers/Father figures - "I have taught thee in the way of wisdom;" Pro. 4:11
Wise men - "He that walks with wise men shall be wise:" 13:20
The discerning - "In the lips of him that hath understanding wisdom is found:" 10:13
The righteous - "The mouth of the just brings forth wisdom:" 10:31
Humility - "...but with the lowly is wisdom." 11:2
Counsel - "...but with the well advised is wisdom." 13:10
The rod & reproof = "The rod and reproof give wisdom:" 29:15
Other's mistakes - "When the scorner is punished, the simple is made wise," 21:11

B. CHARACTERISTICS – WISDOM/WISE

- The principle thing** - "Wisdom is the principle thing, therefore get wisdom..." 4:7
Obtainable - "Doth not wisdom cry...O ye simple, understand wisdom," 8:1,5
Teachable - "A wise man will hear, and will increase learning;" 1:5
Does not see themselves as wise - "Be not wise in your own eyes," 3:7
Takes rebuke well - "...rebuke a wise man, and he will love thee." 9:8
Receives orders well - "The wise in heart will receive commandments:" 10:8
Listens to advice - "...but he that hearkens unto counsel is wise." 12:15
Listens to mental discipline - "...and when the wise is instructed, he receives knowledge." 21:11
He stores up Knowledge - "Wise men lay up knowledge:" 10:14
He seeks knowledge - "...the ear of the wise seeks knowledge." 18:15
Tongue uses knowledge aright - "The tongue of the wise uses knowledge aright:" 15:2
Tongue is healthy for others - "...the tongue of the wise is health." 12:18
His law is a fountain of life - "The law of the wise is a fountain of life," 13:14
Lips keep him out of trouble - "...the lips of the wise shall preserve them." 14:3
Controls his temper - "A fool gives full vent to his anger, but a wise man keeps himself under control." 29:11 NIV
Lips disperse knowledge - "The lips of the wise disperse knowledge:" 15:7
Rejected by the fools/scorners - "...fools despise wisdom and instruction." 1:7
Handles resources wisely - "There is treasure ...in the dwelling of the wise." 21:20

C. RESULT

- Increased learning** – “A wise man will listen, and increase learning;” 1:5
Obtains leadership – “...the fool shall be servant to the wise of heart.” 11:29
A healthy tongue – “...the tongue of the wise is health.” 12:18
Uses knowledge aright – “The tongue of the wise uses knowledge aright.” 15:2
Will be called prudent/discerning – “The wise in heart shall be called prudent.” 16:21
Is strong – “A wise man is strong;” 24:5
Makes their Father’s heart glad – “My son, be wise and make my heart glad,” 27:11

D. BENEFIT

- Primarily for one’s self** – “If thou be wise, you shall be wise for thyself;” 9:12
An influencer of souls – “...he that wins souls is wise.” 11:30
Departs from evil – “A wise man fears, and departs from evil;” 14:16
Pacifies wrath – “The wrath of a king...a wise man will pacify it.” 16:14
Wise leadership – “A wise king scatters the wicked,” 20:26
Used to build – “Through wisdom is a house built...” 24:3

FOOL/PROVERBS

Definition: *there are 3 words in Proverbs for “fool.” Ewil = a non-thinking person, without aim or counsel. He has no reason for what he does, only that he has a mind to do it. This is a weak minded person who does not listen to advice. Kesil = an obstinately rebellious know-it-all, not moved by reason or counsel. This is a strong minded person who will not listen to advice. Nabal = a person with no strength of character, known for their stupidity and lack of respect for God.*

Ewil

A. HOW TO IDENTIFY

- Despise wisdom and mental discipline** – “...fools despise wisdom and MD.” 1:7
Will not be a leader – “...the fool shall be servant to the wise of heart.” 11:29
Way is right in their own eyes – “The way of a fool is right in his own eyes;” 12:15
Have a quick temper – “A fool’s wrath is presently known;” 12:16
Make arrogant remarks – “In the mouth of the foolish is a rod of pride;” 14:3

Make light of sin – “Fools make a mock at sin.” 14:9
Despise their father’s discipline – “A fool despises his father’s instruction.” 15:5
Their instruction is nonsense – “...the instruction of fools is folly.” 16:22
Wisdom of “out of their league” – “Wisdom is too high for a fool.” 2:7
Pervert their life and blame God – “The foolishness of man perverts his way: and his heart frets against the LORD.” 19:3

B. WHAT WILL HAPPEN TO THEM

Jail – “...a fool to the correction of the stocks.”
They will fall – “...a prating fool shall fall.” 10:8
Mouth keeps them in trouble – “...the mouth of the foolish is near destruction.” 10:14
Will die for want of wisdom/heart – “...fools die for want of wisdom.” 10:21
Will go astray – “...in the greatness of his folly he shall go astray.” 5:23

C. HOW THEY ARE TO BE TREATED

With our children, discipline – “Foolishness is bound in the heart of a child; but the rod of correction shall drive it far from him.” 22:15
We are not to try to change a grown one – “Though you should pound a fool in a mortar among wheat with a pestle, yet will not his foolishness depart from him.” 27:22

Nabal

1 Samuel 25:3,35

Profound statements not suitable to them – “Excellent speech becomes not a fool.” 17:7
Unbearable when satisfied – “...cannot bear...a fool when he is filled with meat.” 30:21,22

Kesil

A. HOW TO IDENTIFY

They hate knowledge – “...fools hate knowledge.” 1:22
Constantly talk nonsense – “...the heart of fools proclaim foolishness.” 12:22
Recklessly confident – “A wise man fears, and departs from evil: but the fool rages, and is confident.” 14:16
Feed on nonsense instead of knowledge – “...the mouth of fools feed on foolishness.” 15:14
Has contempt for his Mother – “...a foolish man despises his Mother.” 15:20

Doesn't respond to discipline – “A reproof enters more into a wise man than a hundred stripes into a fool.” 17:10

An argumentative trouble-maker – “A fool's lips enter into contention, and his mouth calls for strokes.” 18:6

Wastes resources – “...treasure...a foolish man spends it up.” 21:20

Always returns to his folly – “As a dog returns to his vomit, so a fool returns to his folly.” 26:11

Cannot communicate sensibly – “The legs of the lame are not equal: so is a parable in the mouth of fools.” 26:7

Utters all his mind – “A fool utters all his mind.” 29:11

B. EFFECT ON OTHERS

The heaviness of his Mother – “...a foolish son is the heaviness of his Mother.” 10:1

Destroys his companions – “...a companion of fools shall be destroyed.” 13:20

Not a source of knowledge – “The lips of the wise disperse knowledge: but the heart of the foolish does not so.” 15:7

Very dangerous – “Let a bear robbed of her whelps meet a man, rather than a fool in his folly.” 17:12

Brings sorrow to his Father – “...the Father of a fool hath no joy.” 17:21

Causes major losses to parents – “A foolish son is the calamity of his Father.” 19:13

Not useable – “He that sends a message by the hand of a fool cuts off the feet and drinks damage.” 26:6

C. WHAT WILL HAPPEN TO THEM

Will be destroyed by their own prosperity – “...the prosperity of fools shall destroy them.” 1:32

Disgrace, their only promotion - “The wise shall inherit glory: but shame shall be the promotion of fools.: 3:35

Physical punishment – “...a rod for the fool's back.” 26:3

D. HOW WE ARE TO REGARD THEM

Isolation – “Go from the presence of a foolish man,” 14:7

Do not try to reason with them – “Answer not a fool according to his folly,” 26:4

Put them in their place – “Answer a fool according to his folly,” 26:5

Do not honor them – “...honor is not seemly for a fool.” 26:1

Do not hire one – “Like an archer who wounds at random is he who hires a fool or any passer-by.” 26:10 NIV

THE ESSENTIALS OF MANLINESS

Proverbs

The Book of Proverbs is the very Breath of God, 2 Timothy 3:16. It is written by Solomon, whom God declared to be the wisest man of all time, 1 Kings 3:121. The Book of Proverbs is written as a Father to a Son, 1:8, et al. Therefore, we have no problem seeing the Book of Proverbs as containing the ESSENTIALS OF MANLINESS.

Since an effective study of Proverbs could profitably occupy a lifetime, we will pick out four of the characteristics emphasized therein, and see what the Book has to tell us about them.

The four words will be, as normally translated, *wisdom, instruction, discernment* and *righteousness*. Let's start with *wisdom*. We will look at its *source*, and its *characteristics*.

INSTRUCTION SHEET

The Essentials of Manliness *Proverbs*

Main Goal:

The main goal of making this a course for our *Bible School*, is to see what is essential to a manly, masculine, "World-Changing-Leader" character as taught by each point.

One

Study and meditate on the verse until you sense you have a good grasp of what it is teaching.

Two

Think specifically as to what this looks like in a man who desires to become a leader, a "**man among men.**"

Three

When you are ready, write a small paragraph, maybe three or four lines, describing how this verse and the point it is making, describes what you think God would have you to be as a man.

Four

When completed, this will be turned in to our *Bible School Administrator* for review and grading.

Five

Upon completion, and certificate will be awarded. Good job!

EXAMPLE

IV. Righteousness

A. Characteristics

2. Teachable, 9:9 - As much as the world depicts manhood as close-minded self-sufficiency, God's Word clearly teaches the opposite. Real manhood constantly recognizes its limits of knowledge, and the capacity of anyone, and everyone, to teach them. And, a real man humbly accepts instruction. Real men are constantly learning!

SECTION ONE

I. WISDOM: *Skill in using what one knows, to solve a problem, or get a job done.* The New Testament word for *wisdom*, *sophia* leads us to also include the idea of *doing the best thing, in the best possible way, producing the best possible results.*

A. Source of wisdom

1. God – 2:6, See also James 1:5,; 3:17
2. Fathers/father figures, 4:11; 5:
3. The fear of the LORD, 9:10; 15:33
4. The lips of the discerning, 10:13, 23
5. Righteous men, 10:31
6. The lowly, 11:2
7. Those who take the advice of others, 13:10

8. Administered discipline, 29:15

B. Characteristics of a wise man

1. He is a good listener, 1:5
2. He takes rebuke well, 9:8
3. He is a good learner, 9:9
4. He makes a glad father, 10:1; 15:20
5. He receives orders well, 10:8
6. He stores up knowledge, 10:14
7. He will be promoted to leadership, 11:29
8. He influences others for good, 11:30
9. He listens to advice, 12:15
10. He has a tongue that is healthy for others, 12:18
11. He listens to mental discipline, 13:1; 21:11
12. His law is a fountain of life, 13:14
13. He is a good teacher, 13:20
14. His lips keep him out of trouble, 14:3
15. He has godly fear, 14:16
16. He uses knowledge aright, 15:2
17. His lips disperse knowledge, 15:7
18. He is looked upon as discerning, 16:21
19. His mouth gives forth wisdom, 16:23
20. He is a seeker of knowledge, 18:15
21. He is a good money manager, 21:20
22. He is strong, 24:5 *5797 PREVAIL, SOUV, MAJESTIC, BOLD, (PHYSICAL) IMPROV 581*
23. He is a good judge of others, 24:23
24. He is diplomatic, a peace maker, 29:8
25. He controls his tongue, 29:11

SECTION TWO

II. **DISCERNMENT:** normally translated *perceive*, or *understand*, the word means *to discern, to be able to separate one thing from another, to be able to tell the difference.*

A. We only list the characteristics of a man with discernment, which are:

1. Shall attain unto wise counsels. That is, a system of guiding thoughts and regulating principles, 1:5
2. His lips have wisdom, 10:13

3. Knowledge is easy for him, 14:6
4. Wisdom rests in his heart, 14:33; 17:24; 8:9
5. He seeks knowledge, 15:14; 18:15
6. He learns from rebuke, 17:10
7. He is a good leader, 28:2
8. He keeps the Law, 28:7

III. INSTRUCTION: This word is *mental discipline*, that is, *disciplinary control of the mind, caused initially by outside control.*

A. The source

1. Proverbs, 1:2
2. Fathers/father figures, 1:8
3. The LORD, 3:11
4. Corporeal punishment, 7:22
5. The fear of the LORD, 15:33
6. Observing the failures of others. 24:32

B. Its characteristics

1. Has the 4 elements of objectivity, knowing what is right, making a decision, and being consistent, 1:3
2. Despised by fools, 1:7
3. A correct way of life, 6:23
4. More important than money, 8:10
5. It keeps us in the way of life, 10:17
6. It is the way of wisdom, 19:20

C. Our correct attitude toward it

1. Take fast hold of it, 4:13
2. Listen to it, 8:33; 13:1
3. Love it, 12:1
4. Don't refuse, 15:32
5. Apply the heart to it, 23:12

SECTION THREE

IV. RIGHTEOUSNESS : positionally, this is a state, though faith in Christ alone, where we possess the righteousness, perfection of

Christ, 2 Cor. 5:21. Practically, this is a life which is examined by, and conforms to the 10 Commandments.

A. Characteristics of a righteous man

1. He is loved by the LORD, 15:9
2. He is teachable, 9:9
3. His mouth is a well of life, 10:11
4. His tongue is as choice silver, 10:20
5. His lips feed many, 10:21
6. His mouth brings forth wisdom, 10:31
7. His lips know what is acceptable, 10:32
8. His desire is only good, 11:23
9. His thoughts are right, 12:5
10. His regards the life of his beast (machinery), 12:10
11. He hates lying, 13:5
12. He is satisfied with sufficient food, 13:25
13. His heart studies to answer, 15:28
14. He runs into the Name of the LORD for safety, 18:10
15. He wisely considers the house of the unrighteous, 21:12
16. It is a joy to him to be decisive for good, 21:15
17. He does fall, but he gets up, 24:16
18. He is bold, courageous, 28:1
19. He sings and rejoices, 29:6; Psa. 64:10
20. He considers the cause of the poor, 29:7
21. He does not approve of unrighteousness, 29:27

SECTION FOUR

B. Results of a righteous man's life

1. He is delivered from death, 10:2, 11
2. His righteousness directs his way, 11:5
3. It leads him to the ways of life, 11:19; 12:28
4. It keeps him in the right way of life, 13:6
5. It exalts a nation, 14:34
6. It establishes the place of leadership, 16:12
7. It brings him to honor, 21:21
8. The LORD blesses him, 3:33; 10:6
9. His path is as a shining light, 4:18
10. His memory is a blessing, 10:7
11. He is delivered through knowledge, 11:9
12. He causes rejoicing in others, 11:10

13. His seed is delivered, 11:21
14. He will flourish as a branch, 11:28
15. His fruit is a tree of life, 11:30
16. His house will stand, 12:7
17. His house will have treasure, 15:6
18. God hears his prayers, 15:29
19. His children are blessed, 20:7
20. The unrighteousness are a ransom for him, 21:18
21. He is a good authority figure, 29:2

C. The future of a righteous man

1. Glory in his old age, 16:31
2. Lord will feed him, 10:3
3. His desire will be granted, 10:24
4. He has an everlasting foundation, 10:25
5. A stable future, 10:30
6. He will be delivered out of trouble, 11:9; 12:13
7. He will be recompensed in the earth, 11:31
8. No ultimate evil will happen to him, 12:21
9. He has hope in his death, 14:32
10. Good will be repaid to him, 13:21
11. The wealth of the sinner is laid up for him, 13:22

Nouthetic Counseling

"And I myself also am persuaded of you, my brethren, that ye also are full of goodness, filled with all knowledge, able also to admonish (Gr. *noutheteo*; nouthetically counsel) one another." Rom. 15:14

A. Preparation: Encouragement

"Heaviness in the heart of man maketh it stoop: but a good word maketh it glad."
Pro. 12:25

"A man hath joy by the answer of his mouth: and a good word spoken in due season, how good is it!" Pro. 15:23

"Pleasant words are as an honeycomb, sweet to the soul, and health to the bones."
Pro. 16:24

"Death and life are in the power of the tongue: and they that love it shall eat the fruit thereof." Pro. 18:21

"A word fitly spoken is like apples of gold in pictures of silver." Pro. 25:11

"Ointment and perfume rejoice the heart: so doth the sweetness of a man's friend by hearty counsel." Pro. 27:9

"Blessed be God, even the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of mercies, and the God of all comfort; Who comforteth us in all our tribulation, that we may be able to comfort them which are in any trouble, by the comfort wherewith we ourselves are comforted of God. For as the sufferings of Christ abound in us, so our consolation also aboundeth by Christ. And whether we be afflicted, it is for your consolation and salvation, which is effectual in the enduring of the same sufferings which we also suffer: or whether we be comforted, it is for your consolation and salvation. And our hope of you is stedfast knowing, that as ye are partakers of the sufferings, so shall ye be also of the consolation." 2 Cor. 1:3-7

Note: every underlined word (10 times) is a form of the Gr. Word parakaleo, which means to encourage or console.

B. The Need

"But speaking the truth in love, may grow up into Him in all things, which the Head, even Christ:" Eph. 4:15

Our assumption is that the proper understanding of this verse is the ministry of every member, one to another, engaging in the counseling referred to in Romans 15:14.

"Wherefore let him that thinketh he standeth take heed lest he fall." 1 Cor 10:12

"There is a way which seemeth right unto a man, but the end thereof are the ways of death." Pro. 14:12

"There is a way that seemeth right unto a man, but the end thereof are the ways of death." Pro. 16:25

"All the ways of a man are clean in his own eyes, but the LORD weigheth the spirits." Pro. 16:2

"Every way of a man is right in his own eyes: but the LORD pondereth the hearts." Pro. 21:2

"The way of a fool is right in his own eyes: but he that hearkeneth unto counsel is wise." Pro. 12:15

"He that trusteth in his own heart is a fool: but whoso walketh wisely, he shall be delivered." Pro. 28:26

"Seest thou a man wise in his own conceit? There is more hope of a fool than of him." 26:12

"O LORD, I know that the way of man is not in himself: it is not in man that walketh to direct his steps." Jer. 10:23

"Man's goings are of the LORD; how can a man then understand his own way?"

C. Nouthetic Counseling Defined

Nouthetic counseling consists of lovingly confronting people out of deep concern in order to help them grow up into all things in Christ. In the New Testament the noun is used in 1 Cor. 10:11; Eph. 6:4; Titus 3:10; and the verb is used Acts 20:31; Rom. 15:14; 1 Cor. 4:14; Col. 1:28; 3:16; 1 Thess. 5:12,14; 2 Thess. 3:15. There are 3 ideas contained in nouthetic counseling, and all three can be seen in 2 Timothy 4:2:

1. Confrontation - **reprove** - this is to so state one's case from Scripture that no reasonable person can disagree or reject, 2Tim. 3:16.

2. Concern - **rebuke** - this is where one passionately shows the value of, and the need to positively respond to the above "reproof."

3. Change - **exhort** - this is where we come along side of the counselee in order to provide the support and the encouragement to change when they see that need.

D. Nouthetic Counseling in Proverbs

The Hebrew word corresponding to the Greek *noutheteo* is *musar*. The technical meaning of *musar* is, "disciplinary control of the mind, caused initially by outside control." The English word for *musar* will be in underlined. We will list the main teaching of *musar* in Proverbs in 5 categories:

1. Sources of:

a. **Proverbs**, "The proverbs of Solomon.....To know wisdom and instruction; to perceive the words of understanding." 1:1,2

b. **A father/father figure**, "My son, hear the instruction of thy father, and forsake not the law of thy mother." 1:8

c. **The LORD**, "My son, despise not the chastening of the LORD; neither be weary of His correction." 3:11

d. **Reproof**, "For the commandment is a lamp; and the law is light, and the reproofs of instruction are the way of life." 6:23

e. **The stocks**, "He goeth after her straightway, as an ox goeth to the slaughter, or as a fool to the correction of the stocks;: 7:22

f. **The rod**, "Foolishness is bound in the heart of a child; but the rod of correction shall drive it far from him." 22:15

g. **The Fear of the LORD**, "The fear of the LORD is the instruction of wisdom; and before honor is humility." 15:33

h. **Other's mistakes**, "Then I saw, and considered it well: I looked upon it, and received instruction." 24:32

i. **Various teachers**, "And thou mourn at the last.....And say, How have I hated instruction, and my heart despised reproof; And have not obeyed the voice of my teachers," 5:11,12,13

2. Characteristics of:

a. **The 4 elements**: (1) stop and think, (2) evaluate, (3) choose/commit, (4) carry through. "To receive the instruction of wisdom, justice, judgment, and equity." 1:3

b. **A way of life**, "For the commandment is a lamp; and the law is light; and reproofs of instruction are the way of life." 6:23

3. Positive Responses To:

a. **Don't resist**, "My son, despise not the chastening of the LORD; neither be weary of His correction." 3:11

b. **Take hold of**, "Take fast hold of instruction; let her not go: keep her; for she is thy life." 4:13

c. **Get the right kind**, "Cease, my son, to hear the instruction that causeth to err from the words of knowledge." 19:27

d. **Apply to the heart**, "Apply thine heart unto instruction, and thine ears to the words of knowledge." 23:12

e. **Pay the price to get it**, "Buy the truth, and sell it not; also wisdom, and instruction, and understanding." 23:23

4. Negative Responses To:

a. **Despising**, "The fear of the LORD is the beginning of knowledge: but fools despise wisdom and instruction." 1:7

b. **Hating**, "And say, How have I hated instruction, and my heart despised reproof;" 5:12

c. **Refusal**, "Poverty and shame shall be to him that refuseth instruction: but he that regardeth reproof shall be honored." 13:18

d. **Upset at**, "Correction is grievous unto him that forsaketh the way: and he that hateth reproof shall die." 15:10

5. Results Of Positive Response:

a. **Wisdom**, "Hear counsel and receive instruction, that thou mayest be wise in the latter end." 19:20

b. **Life**, "He is in the way of life that keepeth instruction, but he that refuseth reproof erreth." 10:17

c. **Knowledge**, "Whoso loveth instruction, loveth knowledge: but he that hateth reproof is brutish." 12:1

Notes on Counseling:

1. "Love covers a multitude of sins," 1 Pet. 4:8; Pro. 10:12; 1 Cor. 13:7; Pro. 17:9. We must decide whether our intention to confront may be best overlooked.

2. Words to avoid when attempting to confront/counsel another: "never," "always," and "you."

3. The 4 Levels of Communication:

1st - clichés: common courtesy (how are you doing?)

2nd - common interests (how 'bout them Broncos?)

3rd - personal problems (please pray about...)

4th - "iron sharpens iron," Pro. 27:17 (I hope you don't mind me saying this)

Level 4 is when we feel we can say what we think we need to say without fear of putting the relationship in jeopardy.

COUNSEL - Proverbs

etsah; ya`ats - counsel, advice, consultation, resulting in a purpose, plan, design; with the verb meaning giving the above. Involved words underlined.

A. God's

"But ye have set at nought all my counsel, and would none of my reproof:" 1:25

"They would none of my counsel: they despised all my reproof my reproof:" 1:30

"Counsel is mine, and sound wisdom: I am understanding; I have strength." 8:14

"There are many devices in a man's heart; nevertheless the counsel of the LORD, that shall stand." 19:21

"There is no wisdom nor understanding nor counsel against the LORD." 21:30

B. Pluses

"The way of a fool is right in his own eyes: but he that hearkeneth unto counsel is wise." 12:15

"Hear counsel, and receive instruction, that thou mayest be wise in thy latter end." 19:20

"Every purpose is established by counsel: and with good advice make war." 20:18

"Ointment and perfume rejoice the heart: so doth the sweetness of a man's friend by hearty counsel." 27:9

"Where no counsel is, the people fall: but in the multitude of counselors there is safety." 11:14

"Deceit is in the heart of them that imagine evil: but to the counselors of peace is joy." 12:20

"Without counsel purposes are disappointed: but in the multitude of counselors they are established." 15:22

"For by wise counsel thou shalt make thy war: and in the multitude of counselors there is safety." 24:6

"Only pride cometh contention: but with the well advised is wisdom." 13:10

C. tachbulah - Steerage - "ropes" on the areas of my life held by others.

"...a man of understanding shall attain unto wise counsels:" 1:5

"Where no counsel is, the people fall..." 11:14

"...but the counsels of the wicked are deceit." 12:5

"Every purpose is established by counsel: and with good advice make war." 20:18

"For by wise counsel thou shalt make thy war:" 24:6

REPROOF

8433 - tokachath (noun); 3198 yakach (verb); answering to 1650 elegchos (noun) 2 Tim 3:16; Heb. 11:1; and 1651 elegcho (verb) Matt. 18:15; Lk. 3:19; John 3:20; 8:9,36; 16:8; 1 Cor. 14:24; Eph. 5:11,13; 1 Tim. 5:20; 2 Tim. 4:2; Titus 1:9,13; 2:15; Heb. 12:5; James 2:9; Rev. 3:19: to reprove; convince; that is, using the Word of God, to so convince one of their wrong, bringing about, if not always a confession of the sin, at least a conviction. Word involved will be underlined.

A. God's

"Turn you at my reproof: behold, I will pour out my Spirit unto you, I will make known my words unto you." 1:23

"My son, despise not the chastening of the LORD; neither be weary of His correction." 3:11

"For whom the LORD loveth He correcteth; even as a father the son in whom he delighteth." 3:12

"Add thou not unto His words, lest he reprove thee, and thou be found a liar." 30:6

B. Advantages

"For the commandment is a lamp; and the law is light; and reproofs of instruction are the way of life." 6:23

"Poverty and shame shall be to him that refuseth instruction: but he that regardeth reproof shall be honored." 13:18

"A fool despiseth his father's instruction: but he that regardeth reproof is prudent." 15:5

"The ear that heareth the reproof of life abideth among the wise." 15:31

"He that refuseth instruction despiseth his own soul: but he that heareth reproof getteth understanding." 15:32

"Open rebuke is better than secret love." 27:5

"The rod and reproof give wisdom: but a child left to himself bringeth his mother to shame." 29:15

"Smite a scorner, and the simple will beware: and reprove one that hath understanding, and he will understand knowledge." 19:25

"Reprove not a scorner, lest he hate thee: rebuke a wise man, and he will love thee." 9:8

"But to them that rebuke him [the wicked] shall be delight, and a good blessing shall come upon them [the people]." 24:25

"As an earring of gold, and an ornament of fine gold, so is a wise reprover upon an obedient ear." 25:12

"He that rebuketh a man afterwards shall find more favor than he that flattereth with the tongue." 28:23

C. Those to not rebuke

"He that reproveth a scorner getteth to himself shame: and he that rebuketh a wicked man getteth himself a blot." 9:7

"Reprove not a scorner, lest he hate thee: rebuke a wise man, and he will love thee." 9:8

D. Those who reject

"And say [flesh and body are consumed], How have I hated instruction, and my heart despised reproof;" 5:12

"He is in the way of life that keepeth instruction: but he that refuseth reproof erreth." 10:17

"Whoso loveth instruction loveth knowledge: but he that hateth reproof is brutish." 12:1

"Correction is grievous unto him that forsaketh the way: and he that hateth reproof shall die." 15:10

"He, that being often reproved hardeneth his neck, shall suddenly be destroyed, and that without remedy." 29:1

CHARACTER CHECK

Are their correctable traits in my character which are preventing me from progressing as a leader in the Body of Christ?

We will start with the negative. We will list several traits of the "fool" in Proverbs, and encourage each of us to check our attitude against each one. Since there are two basic words for "fool" in Proverbs, we will start with the weaker and go to the stronger.

1. *ewil* - a non-thinking person, without aim or counsel. They have no reason for what they do, only that they have a mind to do it.

Scripture Trait

1:7	Despises wisdom and mental discipline
12:15	Own way always right in their own eyes
12:16	A quick temper, "short fuse."
14:3	Makes arrogant, not thought-through remarks
14:9	Makes light of sin
16:22	Gives nonsensical instruction
20:3	Angry at most everything
14:1	Destructive toward responsibilities
19:3	Perverts their own lives, then sullen towards God
27:3	Their anger is destructive to those around them

2. *kesil* - an obstinately rebellious know-it-all, not moved by reason or counsel.

Scripture Trait

1:22	Hates knowledge, learning
10:18	Hides hatred by lying lips
10:23	Likes sick and impure jokes

15:2	Constantly talks nonsense
14:16	Recklessly confident in own understanding
18:6,7	Mouth gets them into trouble
21:20	Squanders resources
29:11	Talks too much

We now go to the positive, with the Hebrew word *chakam*. Normally translated "wise," this word describes one who has skill in using what they know to solve problems and get jobs done. The word also refers to the moral excellence of doing the right thing, in the right way, with the best possible results.

<u>Scripture</u>	<u>Trait</u>
1:5	A good listener, and learner
9:8	Responds well to rebuke
10:8	Receives commands well
11:30	Influences others for good
12:15	Good at taking advice
12:18	Their tongue helps, not hurts others
13:20	Seeks the wise as their companions
14:16	Good fear keeps them out of trouble
15:2	Tongue uses knowledge well
15:7	Lips disperse knowledge
16:14	Works well with leadership
16:21	Will be called discerning by others
21:11	Benefits from instruction
21:20	Conserves resources
24:5	Is strong
29:8	Deflects trouble
29:11	Does not utter all his mind

MONEY AND ME

A. GENERAL READING

Ecclesiastes 5:10-20
Matthew 6:19-34
Luke 12:13-34
Luke 16:1-15
1 Timothy 5:3-16
1 Timothy 6:3-21

B. GIVING AND THE FUTURE

1. 1 Tim. 6:17-19 - "Charge them that are rich in this world, that they be not high-minded; nor trust in uncertain riches, but in the living God, who giveth us richly all things to enjoy; That they do good, that they be rich in good works, ready to distribute, willing co communicate; Laying up in store for themselves a good foundation against the time to come, that they may lay hold on eternal life." _____

2. Pro. 3:9-10 - "Honor the LORD with thy substance, and with the first-fruits of all thine increase: So shall they barns be filled with plenty, and they presses shall burst out with new wine." _____

3. Pro. 11:24-25 - "There is that scattereth, and yet increaseth; and there is that withholdeth more than is meet, but it tendeth to poverty. The liberal soul shall be made fat: and he that watereth shall be watered also himself." _____

4. Pro. 13:7 - "There is that maketh himself rich, yet hath nothing: there is that maketh himself poor, yet hath great riches. See 2 Cor. 8:9" _____

5. Pro. 14:21 - He that despiseth his neighbor sinneth: but he that hath mercy on the poor, happy is he." _____

6. Pro. 19:17 - "He that hath pity upon the poor lendeth unto the LORD; and that which he hath given will he pay him again." _____

7. Pro. 21:13 - "Whoso stoppeth his ears at the cry of the poor, he also shall cry himself, but shall not be heard." _____

8. Pro. 21:26 - "He coveteth greedily all the day long: but the righteous giveth and spareth not." _____

9. Pro. 22:9 - "He that hath a bountiful eye shall be blessed; for he giveth of his bread to the poor." _____

10. Pro. 28:27 - "He that giveth unto the poor shall not lack: but he that hideth his eyes shall have many a curse." _____

11. Pro. 29:7 - "The righteous considereth the cause of the poor: but the wicked regardeth not to know it." _____

C. WHAT IS BETTER

1. 1 Tim. 6:6 - "But godliness with contentment is great gain." _____

2. Pro. 8:19 - "[Wisdom] My fruit is better than gold, yea, than fine gold; and my revenue than choice silver." _____

3. Pro. 11:4 - "Riches profit not in the day of wrath: but righteousness delivereth from death." _____

4. Pro. 15:16 - "Better is little with the fear of the LORD than great treasure and trouble therewith." _____

5. Pro. 15:17 - "Better is a dinner with herbs where love is, than a stalled ox and hatred therewith." _____

6. Pro. 22:1 - "A good name is rather to be chosen than great riches, and loving favor rather than silver and gold." _____

7. Pro. 28:6 - "Better is the poor that walketh in his uprightness, than he that is perverse in his ways, though he be rich." _____

D. MANAGEMENT

1. Pro. 12:27 - "The slothful man roasteth not that which he took in hunting: but the substance of the diligent man is precious." _____

2. Pro. 13:11 - "Wealth gotten by vanity shall be diminished: but he that gathereth by labor shall increase." _____

3. Pro. 13:22 - "A good man leaveth an inheritance to his children's children: and the wealth of the sinner is laid up for the just." _____

4. Pro. 21:17 - "He that loveth pleasure shall be a poor man: he that loveth wine and oil shall not be rich." _____

5. Pro. 21:20 - "There is treasure to be desired and oil in the dwelling of the wise; but a foolish man spendeth it up." _____

6. Pro. 22:7 - "The rich ruleth over the poor, and the borrower is servant to the lender." _____

7. Pro. 22:26-27 - "Be not thou one of them that strike hands, or of them that are sureties for debts. If thou hast nothing to pay, why should he take away thy bed from under thee?" _____

E. TRUST

1. 1 Tim. 6:17 - "Charge them that are rich in this world, that they be not high-minded; nor trust in uncertain riches, but in the living God, who giveth us richly all things to enjoy;"

2. Heb. 13:5-6 - "Let your conversation be without covetousness; and be content with such things as ye have: for he hath said, I will never leave thee, nor forsake thee. So that we may boldly say, the Lord is my helper, and I will not fear what man shall do unto me."

3. Pro. 11:28 - "He that trusteth in his riches shall fall; but the righteous shall flourish as a branch."

4. Pro. 18:11 - "The rich man's wealth is his strong city, and as an high wall in his own conceit."

5. Pro. 23:4-5 - "Labor not to be rich: cease from thine own wisdom. Wilt thou set thine eyes upon that which is not? for riches certainly make themselves wings; they fly away as an eagle toward heaven."

F. CROOKED

1. Pro. 1:18-19 - "And they lay wait for their own blood; they lurk privily for their own lives. So are the ways of every one that is greedy of gain; which taketh away the life of the owners thereof."

2. Pro. 13:11 - "Wealth gotten by vanity shall be diminished: but he that gathereth by labor shall increase."

3. Pro. 21:6 - "The getting of treasures by a lying tongue is a vanity tossed to and fro of them that seek death."

4. Pro. 22:16 - "He that oppresseth the poor to increase his riches, and he that giveth to the rich, shall surely come to want."

5. Pro. 28:8 - "He that by usury and unjust gain increaseth his substance, he shall gather it for him that will pity the poor."

G. HASTE

1. Pro. 20:21 - "An inheritance may be gotten hastily at the beginning; but the end thereof shall not be blessed."

2. Pro. 28:20 - "A faithful man shall abound with blessings: but he that maketh haste to be rich shall not be innocent."

3, Pro. 29:22 - "He that hasteth to be rich hath an evil eye, and considereth not that poverty shall come upon him." _____

H. NEGATIVE

1. Matt. 6:21 - "For where your treasure is, there will your heart be also." _____

2. Mat. 6:22-23 - "The light of the body is the eye: if therefore thine eye be single, thy whole body shall be full of light. But if thine eye be evil, thy whole body shall be full of darkness. If therefore the light that is in thee be darkness, how great is that darkness!" _____

3. Matt. 6:33 - "But seek ye first the kingdom of God, and his righteousness, and all these things shall be added unto you." _____

4. Luke 12:21 - "So is he that layeth up treasure for himself, and is not rich toward God." _____

5. Luke 16:13 - "No servant can serve two masters: for either he will hate the one, and love the other; or else he will hold to the one, and despise the other. Ye cannot serve God and mammon." _____

6. Col. 3:5 - "Mortify therefore your members which are upon the earth; fornication, uncleanness, inordinate affection, evil concupiscence, and covetousness, which is idolatry:" _____
2nd Commandment.

7. 1 Tim. 6:9 - "But they that will be rich fall into temptation and a snare, and into many foolish and hurtful lusts, which drown men in destruction and perdition." _____

8. 1 Tim. 6:10 - "For the love of money is the root of all evil: which while some coveted after, they have erred from the faith, and pierced themselves through with many sorrows." _____

9. Pro. 13:8 - "The ransom of a man's life are his riches: but the poor heareth not rebuke." _____

10. Pro. 15:27 - "He that is greedy of gain troubleth his own house: but he that hateth gifts shall live." _____

11. Pro. 28:11 - "The rich man is wise in his own conceit; but the poor that hath understanding searcheth him out." _____

12. Luke 8:14 - "And that which fell among thorns are they, which, when they have heard, go forth and are choked with cares and riches and pleasures of this life and bring no fruit to perfection." _____