



**Wednesday, April 14**

Wisdom personified is the one speaking in this chapter. Wisdom is God's tool and the organizing force behind all of creation, just as a skilled designer creates detailed plans before beginning construction or renovation, God's wisdom ordered the scheme of creation before it appeared and continues to order the scheme of our world.

**Proverbs 8**

- What skills does wisdom possess, according to Proverbs 8?
- In 8:10-11, wisdom is compared to wealth. How do you see wisdom to be more beneficial to you than wealth?

**Thursday, April 15**

Throughout the book of Proverbs, the word "heart" is the driving force, or center, of one's being. How we prepare, nurture, and feed our heart impacts our attitudes, feelings, behaviors, and decisions. Within the following verses we learn that during suffering and difficult times God allows our moral impurities to surface so they can be refined, drawing us closer to God's own heart.

**Proverbs 16:1-17:3**

- Of the times "heart" is mentioned in these passages, what blessings or warnings accompany it?
- Which of these blessings or warnings could God use to make your heart more like God's own?

**Friday, April 16**

Eighty-four times the words "the Lord" appear in Proverbs. In this passage, we are reminded that God does not see differences between the poor and rich. And the Lord expects each one of us to reach out, protect, and defend those who are poor and needy. No matter our status in society, we will all be held to the same test.

**Proverbs 22**

- In Proverbs 22, underline every time "the Lord" is mentioned. What characteristics are identified with "the Lord"?
- Which of these proverbs speak directly to you? What practical applications can you make today?

**Saturday, April 17**

King Lemuel was likely a non-Israelite king, yet his name means "belonging to God." This wisdom highlights the significant role that mothers play in building character into their children, and thus into society at large. Some have said that this chapter, which was written for a patriarchal society, creates unrealistic expectations (or limitations) for present-day women. Others suggest that it gives women the opportunity to determine the balance that works best for them in terms of family, community, and career.

**Proverbs 31**

- For whom are we reminded to speak up and defend in this passage?
- How are you doing in achieving integration between family, community, and career? What changes do you need to make?