

Handout 9-B

The Book of Proverbs

The Book of Proverbs, once referred to as the Book of Wisdom, is a collection of poetry which was intended to teach wisdom to the young. It is not poetry in our sense of the word today, but rather poetry of the ancient times in which it was written. The Book of Proverbs has many wise sayings and instructions which today still have much to teach us.

Part 1

Directions: Read the cited scripture passages from the Book of Proverbs and related biblical footnotes to help you to fill in the blanks for each item.

1. The primary purpose of the Book of Proverbs is to _____
_____.
2. Three persons are specifically named as having been responsible for much of the Book of Proverbs. They are _____, _____ and _____.
3. The principle that the whole book is based on is that “the fear of the Lord is the beginning of _____.” (Prv 1:7)
4. This fear of the Lord does not mean that we are frightened of God, but that we have _____ . (See *NABRE footnote for Prv 1:7*)
5. There are seven things which Proverbs 6:16 specifically says the Lord hates. They are
 - A. _____
 - B. _____
 - C. _____
 - D. _____
 - E. _____
 - F. _____
 - G. _____

Part 2

Directions: Look up the following passages in the Book of Proverbs indicated in the left column and then match the sayings with their modern equivalent in the right column.

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| A. Prv 1:8 | 1. ____ As the sapling is bent, so grows the tree. |
| B. Prv 3:12 | 2. ____ Carry a chip on your shoulder and someone will knock it off. |
| C. Prv 5:13 | 3. ____ It is overpriced unless it is on sale. |
| D. Prv 5:15 | 4. ____ If I had paid attention in class, exams would be easier. |
| E. Prv 6:6–11 | 5. ____ Children need tough love. |
| F. Prv 7:7–10 | 6. ____ Better a nice personality than a pretty face. |
| G. Prv 10:19 | 7. ____ The park after dark is trouble. |
| H. Prv 11:22 | 8. ____ It is hard to be humble when you are number one. |
| I. Prv 12:1 | 9. ____ Some people never learn. |
| J. Prv 12:16 | 10. ____ Your parents are not dummies; they have been there before you. |
| K. Prv 13–24 | 11. ____ The fool often repeats his foolishness. |
| L. Prv 15:1 | 12. ____ Visitors and fish begin to stink after three days. |
| M. Prv 17:28 | 13. ____ Keep quiet and no one will know how dumb you are. |
| N. Prv 18:23 | 14. ____ Suffering is a sign of the Lord's favor. |
| O. Prv 20:14 | 15. ____ To avoid putting your foot in your mouth, shut up. |
| P. Prv 21:13 | 16. ____ Earn your money. Don't sponge off others. |
| Q. Prv 22:6 | 17. ____ Don't shout. I'm not awake yet. |
| R. Prv 25:17 | 18. ____ Ignore the cries of help of others and one day your cries may be ignored. |
| S. Prv 26:11 | 19. ____ It takes two to fight. |
| T. Prv 27:14 | 20. ____ Better start saving for college. |