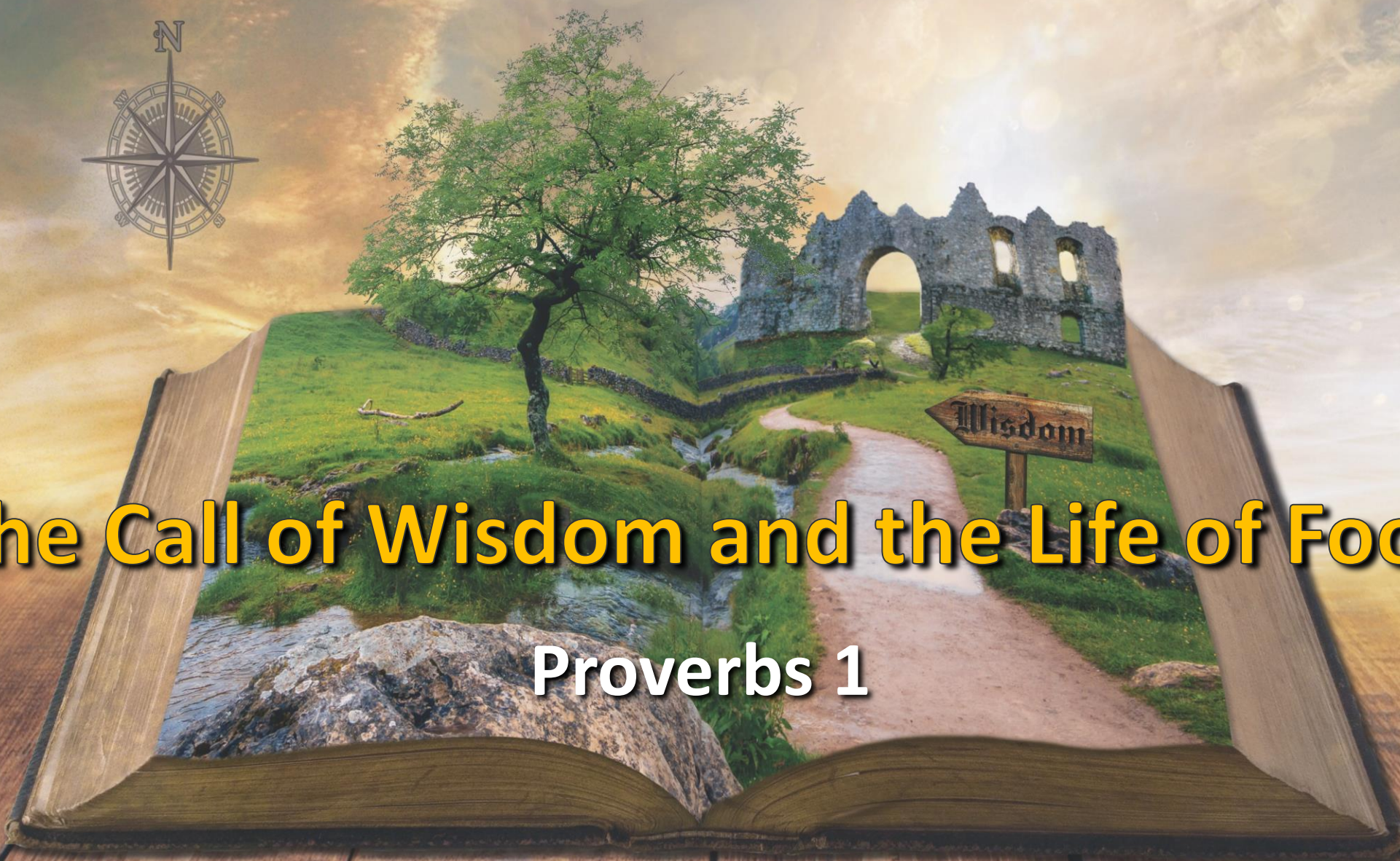




# The Call of Wisdom and the Life of Fools

Proverbs 1





# Our Year-Long Series

- The Life of Solomon



- 13 weeks in 1 Kings and 2 Chronicles

- The Writings of Solomon



- 17 weeks in Proverbs

- 12 weeks in Ecclesiastes

- 1 week in Song of Solomon

# Introduction to the Book of Proverbs

# The Book of Proverbs

## Theme

- Wisdom for the details of life

## Purpose

- To know wisdom and instruction in order to skillfully interpret and navigate life situations to achieve godly outcomes

## Authors

- Solomon (main one)
- Other wise men
- Agur and Lemuel

## Structure

Chapter		Bruce Waltke New International Commentary on the OT	MacArthur Study Bible		NIV Study Bible		
1	:1-7	Collection 1 – Title with Preamble, Prologue, and Epilogue	Prologue		Prologue: Purpose and Theme	Proverbs 1:1 The <b>proverbs of Solomon</b> the son of David, king of Israel	
	:8-33		Praise and Wisdom to the Young		The Superiority of the Way of Wisdom		
2							
3							
4							
5							
6							
7							
8							
9							
10	Collection 2 – Solomon I	Proverbs for Everyone	From Solomon	The Main Collection of Solomon’s Proverbs	Proverbs 10:1 The <b>proverbs of Solomon</b>		
11							
12							
13							
14							
15							
16							
17							
18							
19							
20							
21							
22	:1-16		Collection 3 – The 30 Sayings of the Wise	From Wise Men	The 30 Sayings of the Wise	Proverbs 22:17 Incline your ear and hear the <b>words of the wise</b>	
	:17-29						
23	Collection 4 – Further Sayings of the Wise		From Solomon Collected by Hezekiah	Hezekiah’s Collection of Solomon’s Proverbs	Proverbs 24:23 These also are <b>sayings of the wise</b> .		
24						:1-22	
	:23-34		Collection 5 – Solomon II	From Solomon Collected by Hezekiah	Hezekiah’s Collection of Solomon’s Proverbs	Proverbs 25:1 These also are <b>proverbs of Solomon</b> which the <b>men of Hezekiah</b> , king of Judah, <b>transcribed</b> .	
25							
26							
27							
28							
29							
30	Collection 6 – The Sayings of Agur	Personal Notes	From Agur	The Sayings of Agur	Proverbs 30:1 The words of <b>Agur</b> the son of Jakeh		
31	:1-9		Collection 7 – The Sayings of Lemuel	From Lemuel		The Sayings of King Lemuel	Proverbs 31:1 The words of <b>King Lemuel</b> , the oracle which his mother taught him:
	:10-31					Epilogue: The Ideal Wife	

# The Book of Proverbs

## Audience

- Written to the young and simple-minded (naive)
- Written to everyone who needs wisdom

## Definition

- A proverb is a short, terse saying meant to convey timeless truth and wisdom about human behavior
- Meant to attract one's attention to reflect deeply and to impact how one thinks and acts in various life situations

# The Book of Proverbs

- Interpretation

- Commonly uses figurative, comparative, and parallel language to make points more powerful and vivid
- Should not be interpreted as prophecies or promises, but divine guidelines and wise observations

**1 Corinthians 1:30b** Christ Jesus, who became to us wisdom from God, and righteousness and sanctification, and redemption

**Colossians 2:3** in whom are hidden all the treasures of wisdom and knowledge.

# Proverbs 1



# Purpose and Foundation of Wisdom (1:1-7)

- The title (v1)
- The purpose (vv2-6)
  - To know wisdom and instruction
- The foundation (v7)
  - A reverent and loving attitude toward the Lord is the starting point for pursuing knowledge and wisdom
  - A despicable and hateful attitude toward wisdom and instruction is the mark of fools

# Lesson to Flee the Entitlement of Sinners (vv8-19)

- A father's call to his son to listen and be adorned with wisdom (vv8-9)
  - Listen to the instruction and teaching of your parents
  - Beauty and honor will adorn the one who receives wisdom and instruction
- The overarching command (v10)
  - When sinners attempt to deceive and persuade you to open your mind to their way of thinking and behavior, don't go along with them!

# Lesson to Flee the Entitlement of Sinners (vv8-19)

- The situation concerning murder for gain (vv11-19)
  - The seductions of sinners (vv11-14)
    - Exciting adventure and power over others
    - Easy gain
    - Acceptance and community
  - The response of the wise (v15)
    - Stay far away from this manner of behavior and way of thinking
  - The understanding for the wise (vv16-17)
    - Sinners rush to that which is morally wrong and violates conscience
    - Sinners are stupid in setting traps that bring about their own destruction

# Lesson to Flee the Entitlement of Sinners (vv8-19)

- The situation concerning murder for gain (vv11-19)
  - The outcome for sinners (v19)
    - Wrongfully taking the life of another person for gain causes one to lose his own life

# Wisdom is Calling (vv20-33)

- The calling out to the naive, simple, and foolish (vv20-22)
- The invitation to change course (v23)
  - Those who repent in response to God's rebuke will be taught wisdom by His Spirit
- The divine mockery toward those who reject the invitation (vv24-27)
  - They will be subject to mockery when they bring disaster on themselves
- The ultimate divine abandonment of sinners (vv28-32)
  - Those with this settled disposition will get what's coming to them and be doomed with no way of escape
- The contrasting outcome for the one who listens (v33)
  - He will live in confidence and peace, free from the dread of evil



# The Foolish Person

## Characteristics

- Despises wisdom and instruction
- Entices others into sin
- Rushes even to commit murder for the sake of personal gain
- Runs to evil
- Sets a trap for himself
- Naïve and simple/open minded
- Scoffer and mocker
- Hates knowledge
- Doesn't fear the Lord
- Doesn't listen
- Neglects counsel
- Spurns reproof

## Outcomes

- Gets what's coming to him
- Eventually encounters calamity, dread, distress, anguish
- Destroyed by his own traps
- Loses his life through sinful choices
- Ultimately abandoned of God and all hope

# The Wise Person

## Characteristics

- Fears the Lord
- Increases in learning
- Accepts counsel
- Listens to the instruction of their father/mother
- Does not consent to the enticements of sinners
- Stays away from the behavior/influence of sinners
- Intentionally turns to wisdom

## Outcomes

- Comes to perceive, understand wisdom
- Blessed and taught by the Spirit of God
- Possesses a life adorned with honor
- Lives securely
- At ease from the dread of evil