

2023.10.16 Family Worship lesson in "the Proverb of the day"

Proverbs 16:1

"Responsibility that Rests on the Lord"

¹ The preparations of the heart belong to man,
But the answer of the tongue is from the LORD.

Pastor teaches his family a selection from "the Proverb of the day." In this verse of Holy Scripture, the Holy Spirit teaches us to prepare responsibly, depending on the Lord, while depending on Him also for the outcome, so that we are neither proud when the outcome is favorable or over-anxious when it is not.

(The following is a machine-generated transcription. Please be aware of—and patient with—transcribing errors. If there is something confusing or obviously erroneous, you are invited to listen to the audio recording via hopewellarp.org)

Proverbs 16 verse 1. These are God's words. The preparations of the heart belong to man. But the answer of the tongue. Is from your. Here we have one of the

It's not a contradiction. What's it called? Here we have one of those paradoxes where there are two things that feel like they, Uh, might be opposites to one another. But must be held together for living the christian life and that is our responsibility.

That is our responsibility and our resting. On the one hand, we are. Uh, responsible. Before god for Being wise being prudent, being diligent. The preparation of the heart. Is for man. Even in that, we depend upon the lord. To blast the preparation of our heart. And yet, if we are hoping that the lord will help us, In.

A critical situation to give the right answer, say the right thing in the right way, whether that's in defense. Of ourselves against an accusation or giving testimony about something or witnessing to someone or trying to persuade them of something, for their good, whatever it is. It's one of the most stressful things.

One of those things that You mull over and And then, Even after it's over, you. You are constantly. Attempted to dwell upon what you could have said, better or whatever. It's Uh, it's a critical moment sort of thing. And that answer is always going to be something that you trust the lord for But, It is presumptuous.

And superstitious. To say you're trusting the lord, as an excuse. For not preparing for not exercising wisdom. For not. Learning and studying, not only Um, Content truth. Uh, but also Uh, wise ways of interacting. And, For also, for, Conditioning your heart before god by use of the means of grace seeking the e would give you that quickness to listen and slow this to speak that graciousness of the tongue.

All of the different aspects of the fruit of the spirit. All the things that you need. And so we do both, we must Um, We must do as god has instructed and commanded and taught us. And yet we don't do so because we think that is what is going to produce the outcome we want.

We do so because we are trusting him who has given us this instruction. That he ultimately will bless it. Which on the back end does take the stress out, doesn't it? Because then we can. Uh we can just serve as well as by the lord's grace. We are able to do and know that the outcome is from him.

And, If you are one of those who, Um, Replace the tape in your head over and over. This may be something that helps you and blesses you to to learn. Remember proverbs 16 verse 1. That even though, we are responsible to prepare. But god is the one who Who helps us in the preparation and god is the one who helps us in the moment.

The the answer of the tongue that we give And therefore we trust to him. What comes from it? So, let us learn not to Uh, be irresponsible. But also not to put trust in. Or our hope in how responsible we were. Lest we end up either with pride over a favorable outcome.

Or anxiety over one that we. Perceived to be unfavorable both their dangers. Let's pray. We thank you lord for the great wisdom. That you teach us in your word. And especially how it keeps pointing us to you pointing us to christ. And we ask that your spirit who loves to glorify you and to glorify you in your son.

That he would. That he would write the truth of this part of your word on our hearts. That he would help us. So that we Might enjoy the benefits. Of being the well-instructed children. Of the perfectly good, father for that is what you are. And we long. To please you And to enjoy the sweetness.

Of depending upon you and belonging to you. Even in that extra sweetness, that comes Through union with christ in this And so help us, we ask in jesus name. Amen.