

2023.03.25 Family Worship lesson in “the Proverb of the day”

Proverbs 25:16–17

“Proper Place and Proportion for God's Gifts”

- 16 Have you found honey?
Eat only as much as you need,
Lest you be filled with it and vomit.
- 17 Seldom set foot in your neighbor's house,
Lest he become weary of you and hate you.

Pastor teaches his family a selection from “the Proverb of the day.” In these two verses of Holy Scripture, the Holy Spirit teaches us to give good gifts and good neighbors in their proper place beneath God.

(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 25 verses 16 and 17. These are God's words. Have you found honey? It only as much as you need. Lest you be filled with it and vomit. Seldom set foot in your neighbor's house. Lest be weary of you. And hate you.

So far the reading of god's inspired in an errant work.

The lord himself. Tells us to, Taste and see that, he is good. And that his word is like, honey. And it's sweetness to the soul. And the Lord tells us that He's a friend, just closer to than a brother. He urges us. And the gospel of luke and parable.

Well. I guess it's a bearable. Of the woman and the judge. Never let up and coming to him. And praying to him. And we see the difference between the creator then and even good created things. In these two verses. We must have. Proportion and wisdom. In which we in the way in which we use, the good things that God has given us.

Because he alone is the one. Of him. You can never have too much. He alone. Is the one who never wears. And she was able to give us. Unlimited.

Unlimited intention. Both in the attention, he gives us in the moment and The duration of the attention. He spends upon us. But we must remember never to treat things as if They are the lord. That's the big problem with For instance, gluttony. Or drunkenness. Created things that are created by god for good purposes.

And Bible tells us lots of the good purposes. In this case, honey. Is sweet and helpful and helpful. But when we treat the created thing, As if it is unlimited and unbounded in its goodness towards us. Then we put it in its wrong place, rather than, as a gift from god and away to receive good from his hand and a way to enjoy that, he himself is good by the things that you He gives us.

And we can even abuse as good gifts then. And harm ourselves with that, which would have been good. You can imagine. Uh, what a blessing, what a find it would be for them. To find honey. This. Um, Sweet useful.

Treasure. And yet the picture by the end of the verse 16. As someone who is. Who has? By using it in the wrong place and therefore using it in the wrong proportion. Has turned the The thing that was such a blessed find. Into something harmful for himself, but we could do that.

With almost any of God's good gifts and there's an analogy. Then A neighbor is a blessing to have the Lord created us with. Live in community and to need community. When we're following him, we love our neighbor as ourselves. Then. Multiple people walking together in agreement, strengthen one, another encourage one, another.

And yet. Each neighbor has a house. Each has its own providence from god, we're finite very limited. We have to spend a third of our life unconscious function well and the other two-thirds we have to attend to Our food labor. That is necessary to obtain the means by which we can.

Obtain the food, prepare it clean up after it take care of ourselves, take care of our families. We're actually pretty limited. So, even if we love our neighbor as ourselves, if our neighbor is always among us. Um, we find that there are hindering us. They find that they're hindering us from attending to the board well or find that they Are inhibiting us from attending to our own household.

Well, And we certainly don't want to. Do that to our neighbor. As much better. Uh, by extension of application here. Uh, to invite your neighbor. To attend to your things. Well enough that you're able to Exercise, warm hospitality And, Uh, not to weary others. But for ourselves not to grow weary and well doing It's one thing to say, well, we live in community, this is what we're here for god gave them to us, we should say that.

There are many people who never Uh, seek fellowship or help from anyone. And if anyone tries to give it to them, they kind of stiff arm. They're afraid. Of accepting the hospitality or accepting the help, or having the the fellowship, Maybe for this precise reason unless they grow weary of me.

Or maybe at a pride or whatever else it is. But if the lord tells us to help each other and extend hospitality towards each other, Then we have to be willing to be held to receive hospitality or none of us will be able to obey the lord. But it's another thing to say, well, The Lord tells my brothers to be helpful and to extend hospitality.

So i'm really good at give them opportunity to extend hospitality. I'm going to be in his house all the time. I'm gonna really Uh, give him opportunity to be helpful. I'm going to ask him for out all the time. No, that Again. Treats. The neighbor. In a way, that really only belongs to god.

Forgets. That the neighbor is finite. And that he has to attend to god first and to his household second. And that only only, then The, the team would be able. To attend to you. So, willingness to let others Help us and host us and be kind to us. Or not to turn into a.

Constantly demanding from others that they would help us or host us. Seldom set foot in your neighbor's house. Lest he become wary of you and hate you. And yes, it would be his own sin, right? If he indulged a Hostile or bitter spirit. But wouldn't we be at fault for provoking him?

Wouldn't we have a share? And what came out of it, do we want to be a stumbling blocked or a neighbor? Shouldn't we care about him, spiritually? And want to be helpful to her. So, And so the the key in both cases the honey in verse 16 and the neighbor In verse 17.

It's not to treat created things. As if they are the creator. He is the one. Who has the unbounded goodness? When we use the means that he has given us, we're depending on him.

Definitely, we can. Abuse that. And say, well i'm never going to work again. I'm just going to work worship worship all day long. Well. Here's the one who created you to work, is the one who gave you six days and one. Is the one who put something in between the morning and the evening.

For you to imitate him and work in, you're not really worshiping him. If you. Um, With, if you do that, so there's wisdom to be applied there too. But the main thing And verse 16 and verse 17. Is to create treat God alone as our creator. Trust in him alone.

Find our hope. In in him alone. And all of the good things, then that he's given us under him. To enjoy them and use them and labor in them etc. Um, In a way that fits how he has designed. For that to be. One of the places that this will be most important for you, Is in your marriages.

Husband will want to. Be many good things to his wife. Uh, but There's always a danger of Trying to be too much to her. You can't be the hope of her soul. You can't be her safety. Her pleasure. You can be. Uh, one through whom god gives Much of that, safety that she rests on him for.

And that if he took you, She would still have him. And then you can see, of course. Can't you my dear daughters? The corresponding danger in you. That. A husband as the greatest earthly gift. That you can have. It's a godly husband. And yet, there is danger. Delighting in him or depending upon him in a way, that really belongs.

Only to the lord. So not just honey and neighbors. But the sweetest of neighbors. Your husband. We'll test the words to help us live in this wisdom. And to worship him depend on him, serve him. The lightning. My father in heaven and we thank you that your same spirit by whom

Created all things. Well, same spirit. Who even in your son's humanity, was the spirit of your son. That you have given him to us that we might have fellowship with you of god. Father, son, and holy spirit. By the fellowship that we have. With the spirit. And we pray that he would help us.

But he would. Uh, continually Direct our hearts to you, to rest upon you and be devoted to you. To serve you be delighted in you. And that he would give us understanding from your word especially and also of your world. So that we might see. The instruction that you have given us.

And skillfully, follow it. In order that everything would be in its right place. And that we might enjoy the good things. But you have given us some right proportion. Help us o lord, to love our neighbor. And to love him in a way that prioritizes his soul. The desire is not to provoke him to sin.

But to be used of you. And giving him much opportunity to love you. As he is loved about you. We pray that you would, Grow us in these things and How we live them out, in our own home. That the, the piece and strength, and life, and joy of our own.

Would be much increased by the application of this portion of your word to us. And also that you would be forming the mines and hearts. The children. So that when they come, To lead in their own homes. That those homes too. Would be blessed. Grant these things for your glory o.

God, we ask in jesus name. Amen.