

Proverbs 11:15 (Family Worship lesson in "the Proverb of the day")

## "The Insecurity of Being Someone Else's Security"

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**15** He who is surety for a stranger will suffer,  
But one who hates being surety is secure.

Pastor leads his family in a verse from "the Proverb of the day."

**Main idea:** Being security to back up someone else's promises, and especially someone that we don't even know, puts us in a place that we don't belong, promising to do something that we do not have a proper, reasonable expectation of being able to fulfill.

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**(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 referenced above)**

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Proverbs 11:15. These are the words of God. He who is surety for a stranger will suffer but one who hates being surety is secure so far, the words of God. So shorty or guarantee or collateral or deposit is kind of like saying this is what confirms or makes sure make certain that I will keep my promise and most cases.

The most cases, the promise is a promise to pay back money and the collateral or the shorty is something that either has to be sold to pay the money. Or if it's a person, it's the one who has to pay the money back. So the the situation in verse 15 is describing when someone else borrows money and you say, if they can't or won't pay the money back, then I will pay the money back for you problem with that.

In the first half of the verse is, this is someone who's being surety for a stranger. He doesn't know if this stranger has the money to pay back and he doesn't know if the stranger has the honesty, the godliness, the character, the truthfulness to pay the money back. That's tempting to want, you know, whether out of a misplaced sense of compassion or just wanting people to, like, you and feel good about you to become someone else's guarantee.

But you must not become guarantee for a stranger. Think you know somebody really well if you've even if you're not known them very long but you might be fooled Like we've known people who like one into business with somebody that they thought they knew well but that person turned out to somebody other than their judge of character.

Okay. A bad character. And then they were, they were, that's the second half of the verse. He who is shorty for a stranger will suffer, but he who hates being shorty is secure and so you should not put yourself on the line. Or you should avoid putting yourself on the line at all for anyone.

It is much better if someone is in need and genuine need for you, just to be generous up front, the scripture everywhere. And here in particular, this morning warns us about putting ourselves in these situations where there's an extended relationship of you having to pay the price. If someone else doesn't come through the one who hates doing that is secure.

So so you might think that you are helping someone else be secure by signing for them on a loan. That's one way that the the people do become surety for someone else and in our culture you might think that you are helping them be secure but the second half of our verse says, but one, who hates being sure to is to keep physicare, which means when you think or might be thinking that you're making someone else, secure what you're actually doing, is making yourself insecure.

So God, and his wisdom says teaches us. Don't put your own name, your own promise on the line when it has to be fulfilled by someone else. That's something that you can't reasonably expect to follow through on the other person has to follow through on and you just expands generally into how you speak and how you make promises.

Don't promise things to people that you can't be generally. Expected to follow through upon this happens. Often with children children ask mom and dad if they can go somewhere or get something or we'll we ever be able to whatever. And the tempting thing is a mom or dad is to say I promise we will but it's something that is out of and God's ordinary providence.

This fear of mom and dad's control, it might be something that happens between you and a friend. So, don't promise things that are generally out of your sphere of control, use God's appointed means and commands. Someone has a need, you can be generous if, as someone who's entrusted to you, and it's part of their basic care, then you are obligated to take care of that need.

I, the Lord is always in control of everything, and you can genuinely, pray for someone is very easy to tell someone. I'll pray for that or I'll pray for you, much more difficult to actually follow through on it. Better to say, let me pray for you right now or not even to tell them at all and just to tell God and make a point of remembering to be praying for them.

But he who is authority for a stranger will suffer. What one who hates being shorty is secure, don't put yourself on the line for someone else's fulfillment of their promises. Let's ask God who put himself on the line because he actually fulfills things in our place. And we fulfilled perfect righteousness in our place, and Jesus Christ, and he is able by his spirit.

Even to work in us, you are not God. You can't and shouldn't do that. And be that for others. If you can help it. All right, let's bring her father. We thank you that you have become our shorty in the Lord, Jesus Christ and clinging to him. We are secure because he cannot be made to be in support for.

He is very God, a very God and it's righteousness is perfect because a tournament to sacrifice is complete. We adore you. Our God who have in your integrity promised things that only you could promise and you keep all your holy word that is impossible for you to lie. The scriptures cannot be broken and you have even sworn by yourself.

Not because your word is uncertain, but because our faith is weak. And so you have helped us in our faith and we cling to you who are shorter. And we ask that you would give us a humility of not trying to put ourselves in a place that really only you belong.

Give us a humility of recognizing, how much unknown there is. And our futures, how much unknown there is about others, and grant to us to heed the wisdom of your instruction here, in this verse, even as we cling to Christ to him, you have made to be wisdom for us.

And so we pray that your spirit would give us of his mind that our thinking would be conformed to his by the application of the of holy scripture. Before we ask it in his name, amen.