

## Today's Message Outline

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### **The Fear of the Lord**

Wisdom Calls Out: Studies in Proverbs

Selected Proverbs

Sunday, July 12, 2009

## Today's Scripture Reading

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### **On "the fear of the Lord" . . .**

1. *Make your ear attentive to wisdom, incline your heart to understanding; for if you cry for discernment, lift your voice for understanding; if you seek her as silver and search for her as for hidden treasures; then you will discern the fear of the LORD and discover the knowledge of God. For the LORD gives wisdom; from His mouth come knowledge and understanding. (2:2-6)*
2. *Trust in the LORD with all your heart and do not lean on your own understanding. In all your ways acknowledge Him, and He will make your paths straight. Do not be wise in your own eyes; fear the LORD and turn away from evil. (3:5-6)*
3. *The fear of the LORD is the beginning of wisdom, and the knowledge of the Holy One is understanding. For by me your days will be multiplied, and years of life will be added to you. (9:10-11)*
4. *He who walks in his uprightness fears the LORD, but he who is devious in his ways despises Him. (14:2)*
5. *In the fear of the LORD there is strong confidence, and his children will have refuge. The fear of the LORD is a fountain of life, that one may avoid the snares of death. (14:26-27)*
6. *By lovingkindness and truth iniquity is atoned for, and by the fear of the LORD one keeps away from evil. (16:6)*
7. *The fear of the LORD leads to life, so that one may sleep satisfied, untouched by evil. (19:23)*
8. *The reward of humility and the fear of the LORD are riches, honor and life. (22:4)*
9. *Do not let your heart envy sinners, but live in the fear of the LORD always. Surely there is a future, and your hope will not be cut off. Listen, my son, and be wise, and direct your heart in the way. (23:17-19)*

## **THINK IT OVER !**

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1. Have you ever read through the book of Proverbs? What are your impressions? How is it similar to and different from other books of the Bible?
2. If the Bible is one “redemptive story”, how does Proverbs fit and what is its role in the story?
3. How does the book of Proverbs lead us to Jesus Christ?
4. Looking at “the fear of the Lord” passages, what are some outcomes/benefits/results of fearing the Lord?
5. In your own words, what does it mean to fear the Lord?

## **WORK IT OUT!**

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1. What was new and most challenging for you in this week’s text/message?
2. Looking out on our cultural landscape, where do you recognize our need for wisdom?
3. Looking at your own life, where have you and are you now seeing YOUR need for wisdom?
4. How is wisdom “not less than obeying the moral rules, but much more?” What does this phrase mean? What are some situations in your life where the moral rules do not apply, but where you need wisdom?
5. What role does/can a church family play in the acquisition of wisdom?