

Proverbs: God's Book of Wisdom - Proverbs 27 Part 3

PROVERB: A short sentence often repeated, expressing a well known truth or common fact, ascertained by experience or observation; a maxim of wisdom.

PRINCIPLE: A general truth;

Pro 27:18a Whoever tends a fig tree will eat its fruit, and one who cares for his master will be honored.

1. **v18a: Whoever tends a _____ tree will eat its fruit.**

A) pear B) fig C) apple D) orange

2. **What does it mean, to tend to something or someone?**

TEND: To apply oneself to the care of : watch over.

3. **v18b: One who _____ for his master will be honored.**

A) cares B) beats C) disrespects D) hates

4. **What does it mean to care for something or someone?**

CARE: Responsibility for or attention to health, well-being, and safety.

5. **What is the purpose of caring for the master? Why does the master honor them?**

6. **How do we care and/or tend to Jesus?**

Matthew 25:14-30 “For the kingdom of heaven is like a man traveling to a far country, who called his own servants and delivered his goods to them. And to one he gave five talents, to another two, and to another one, to each according to his own ability; and immediately he went on a journey. Then he who had received the five talents went and traded with them, and made another five talents. And likewise he who had received two gained two more also. But he who had received one went and dug in the ground, and hid his lord's money. After a long time the lord of those servants came and settled accounts with them. “So he who had received five talents came and brought five other talents, saying, ‘Lord,...I have gained five more talents besides them.’ His lord said to him, ‘Well done, good and faithful servant; you were faithful over a few things, I will make you ruler over many things. Enter into the joy of your lord.’ He also who had received two talents came and said, ‘Lord,... have gained two more talents besides them.’ His lord said to him, ‘Well done, good and faithful servant; you have been faithful over a few things, I will make you ruler over many things. Enter into the joy of your lord.’ “Then he who had received the one talent came and said, ‘Lord, I knew you to be a hard man, reaping where you have not

sown, and gathering where you have not scattered seed. And **I was afraid**, & went & **hid your talent in the ground**. Look, there you have what is yours.' "But his lord answered & said to him, '**You wicked and lazy servant**, you knew that I reap where I have not sown, & gather where I have not scattered seed. So you ought to have deposited my money with the bankers, and at my coming I would have received back my own **with interest**. So take the talent from him, and give it to him who has ten talents. 'For to everyone who has, more will be given, and he will have abundance; but from him who does not have, even what he has will be taken away. And cast the unprofitable servant into the outer darkness. There will be weeping and gnashing of teeth.'

7. Who were the first two servants looking out for (care about)? Evidence?
8. Who was the last servant looking out for (care about)? Evidence?
9. How much effort did the last servant need to exert to please his master?
10. What was the reason the last servant was unprofitable (reason master gives)?
11. Are you looking out for the Master's interests or your own? Evidence?

Matthew 25:31 "When the Son of Man comes in His glory, and all the holy angels with Him, then He will sit on the throne of His glory. All the nations will be gathered before Him, and He will separate them one from another, as a shepherd **divides his sheep from the goats**. And He will set the sheep on His right hand, but the goats on the left. Then the King will say to those on His right hand, 'Come, you blessed of My Father, inherit the kingdom prepared for you from the foundation of the world: for I was hungry and you **gave Me food**; I was thirsty and you **gave Me drink**; I was a stranger and **you took Me in**; I was naked and **you clothed Me**; I was sick & **you visited Me**; I was in prison and **you came to Me**.' "Then **the righteous will answer Him**, saying, 'Lord, **when** did we see You hungry and feed You, or thirsty and give You drink? When did we see You a stranger and take You in, or naked and clothe You? Or when did we see You sick, or in prison, and come to You?' And the King will answer and say to them, 'Assuredly, I say to you, **inasmuch as you did it to one of the least of these My brethren, you did it to Me.**'

12. Who are Jesus' brethren (family)?

Luke 8:20-21 And it was told Him by some, who said, "Your mother & ...brothers are ... outside, desiring to see You." But Jesus...said to them, "My mother and My brothers are these **who hear the word of God and do it.**"

John 13:34-35 A new commandment I give to you, that you love one another; as I have loved you, that you also love one another. By this all will know that you are My disciples, if you have love for one another.”

Acts 2:40-47 ...Then those who gladly received Peter’s word were baptized; ...And they continued steadfastly in the apostles’ doctrine & fellowship, in the breaking of bread, & in prayers...Now all who believed were together, & had all things in common, & sold their possessions & goods, & divided them among all, as anyone had need. So continuing daily with one accord in the temple, & breaking bread from house to house, they ate their food with gladness and simplicity of heart, praising God and having favor with all the people. And the Lord added to the church daily those who were being saved.

Acts 4:32-35 Now the multitude of those who believed were of one heart & one soul; neither did anyone say that any of the things he possessed was his own, but they had all things in common...There was not a needy person among them; for all who were possessors of lands or houses sold them, & brought the proceeds of the things that were sold, & laid them at the apostles’ feet; & they distributed to each as anyone had need.

13. What is the evidence you actually love someone?

John 15:13 Greater love has no one than this, than to lay down one’s life for his friends.
Mat 20:28 ...the Son of Man did not come to be served, but to serve,...”

1John 4:20-21,3:15-17 If someone says, “I love God,” and hates his brother, he is a liar; for he who does not love his brother whom he has seen, how can he love God whom he has not seen? And this commandment we have from Him: that he who loves God must love his brother also. Everyone who hates his brother is a murderer, and you know that no murderer has eternal life present in him. This is how we have come to know love: the Messiah gave his life for us. We, too, ought to give our lives for our brothers. Whoever has earthly possessions & notices a brother in need and yet withholds his compassion from him, how can the love of God be present in him?

14. What if I need something from you not earthly but spiritual (*like being at bible study; visiting me in hospital; talking to me; guiding me; teaching me;*), should we withhold those things from our family? Would God?

15. If you don’t have “love/compassion” for a person, what is the only alternative?

Luke 16:13 “No servant can serve two masters; for either he will hate the one and love the other, or else he will be loyal to the one and despise the other

...he who loves God must love his brother also. He who hates his brother is a murderer,

16. What does love for God's people look like in action?

1Cor 13:4-8 Love suffers long and is kind;...does not envy;...does not parade itself, is not puffed up; does not behave rudely, does not seek its own, is not provoked, thinks no evil; does not rejoice in iniquity, but rejoices in the truth; bears all things, believes all things, hopes all things, endures all things. Love never fails.

Php 2:2-4 ... having the same love, being...of one mind. Let nothing be done through selfish ambition or conceit, but in lowliness of mind let each esteem others better than himself...look out not only for your own interests, but also for the interests of others.

John 13:34-35 A new commandment I give to you, that you love one another; as I have loved you, that you also love one another.... **John 15:13** Greater love has no one than this, than to lay down one's life for his friends.

17. What does love for people of the world look like in action?**1Cor 13:4-8 & Php 2:2-4**

Matthew 5:43-45 "...love your enemies, bless those who curse you, do good to those who hate you, and pray for those who spitefully use you and persecute you, that you may be children of your Father in heaven;....

2Cor 5:20 Now then, we are ambassadors for Christ, as though God were pleading through us: we implore you on Christ's behalf, be reconciled to God.

2Tim 2:25-26 in humility correcting those who are in opposition, if God perhaps will grant them repentance, so that they may know the truth, and that they may come to their senses and escape the snare of the devil, having been taken captive by him to do his will.

Pro 27:19 Just as water reflects the face, so the heart reflects the person.

18. v19a: ...water reflects the _____,

A) fish B) seaweed C) face

19. v19b: ...the heart reflects the _____.

A) person B) sun C) bible

20. What does it mean when something is reflected?

REFLECT: to give back or exhibit (something or someone) as an image, likeness, or outline : MIRROR

21. What does this mean: "the heart reflects the person" (man/woman)?

22. How does the Bible explain this reflection?

Mat 7:16-18 You will know them by their fruits. Do men gather grapes from thornbushes or figs from thistles? Even so, every good tree bears good fruit, but a bad tree bears bad fruit. A good tree cannot bear bad fruit, nor can a bad tree bear good fruit.

Mat 15:17-19 ...those things which proceed out of the mouth come from the heart, and they defile a man. For out of the heart proceed evil thoughts, murders, adulteries, fornications, thefts, false witness, blasphemies.

Eze 36:25-27 ...I will give you a new heart and put a new spirit within you; I will take the heart of stone out of your flesh and give you a heart of flesh. I will put My Spirit within you and cause you to walk in My statutes, and you will keep My judgments and do them.

1John 2:5-7 But whoever keeps His word, in him the love of God is truly made perfect. We know that we are in Him by this—whoever claims to abide in Him must walk just as Jesus walked.

23. What command has God given us so we do not disregard the reflection?

2Cor 13:4-6 Test yourselves, to see whether you are in the faith. Examine yourselves! Or don't you know yourselves—that Christ Jesus is in you? Unless of course you failed the test.

24. What should you be examining / testing? Actions & Motives

25. What do people see when they see your actions, behavior? Godly or not godly?

John 8:39-47 The Jews...said to Jesus, "Abraham is our father. [claim]" Jesus said to them, "If you were Abraham's children, you would do the works of Abraham [reflection] ...But now you seek to kill Me [actual], ...Abraham did not do this.

Then they said to Jesus, "...we have one Father—God [claim]." Jesus said to them, "If God were your Father, you would love Me [reflection], for I proceeded forth and came from God;...Why do you not understand My speech? Because you are not able to listen to My word. You are of your father the devil [actual], and the desires of your father you want to do. He was a murderer from the beginning,...

He who is of God hears God's words [reflection]; therefore you do not hear, because you are not of God [actual]."

26. Those of God hears God's words: what is the reflection of that statement?

James 1:22 But be doers of the word, and not hearers only, deceiving yourselves.