



Memory Verse

Truly, this only I have found:  
 That God made man upright,  
 but they have sought out many schemes  
 - Ecclesiastes 7:29

I have completed my Bible studies for the following days:

- Lord's Day & Monday
- Tuesday
- Wednesday
- Thursday
- Friday & Saturday

Signature

Daily Bible Studies  
 June 30 - July 6, 2013  
 "More Words  
 of Wisdom"  
 Ecclesiastes 7:13 - 12



## The Lord's Day & Monday

Read **Ecclesiastes 7:13-29**.

This week Solomon gives us more words of wisdom. He continues to teach us things that he has learned. He even tells us that he has proved all of these things with the wisdom he had, but at the end of the week you will see that his wisdom could only take him so far. Remember through this week's study, that you must trust the Lord Jesus. When the Word of God exposes your sin, don't despair, believe that Jesus died to forgive your sins. Pray and think about this week's study. It is the most important thing you will do.

*"Consider the work of God; for who can make straight what He has made crooked? In the day of prosperity be joyful, but in the day of adversity consider: surely God has appointed the one as well as the other, so that man can find out nothing that will come after him. I have seen everything in my days of vanity: there is a just man who perishes in his righteousness, and there is a wicked man who prolongs life in his wickedness. Do not be overly righteous, nor be overly wise: why should you destroy yourself? Do not be overly wicked, nor be foolish: Why should you die before your time? It is good that you grasp this, and also not remove your hand from the other; for he who fears God will escape them all. Wisdom strengthens the wise more than ten rulers of the city. For there is not a just man on earth who does good and does not sin. Also do not take to heart everything people say, lest you hear your servant cursing you. For many times, also, your own heart has known that even you have cursed others. All this I have proved by wisdom. I said, "I will be wise"; but it was far from me. As for that which is far off and exceedingly deep, who can find it out? I applied my heart to know, to search and seek out wisdom and the reason of things, to know the wickedness of folly, even of foolishness and madness. And I find more bitter than death the woman whose heart is snares and nets, whose hands are fetters. He who pleases God shall escape from her, but the sinner shall be trapped by her. "Here is what I have found," says the Preacher, "Adding one thing to the other to find out the reason, which my soul still seeks but I cannot find: One man among a thousand I have found, but a woman among all these I have not found. Truly, this only I have found: That God made man upright, but they have sought out many schemes."*

## Friday & Saturday Activity

"No eye pitied you, to do any of these things for you, to have compassion on you; but you were thrown out into the open field, when you yourself were loathed on the day you were born. And when I passed by you and saw you struggling in your own blood, I said to you in your blood, 'Live!' Yes, I said to you in your blood, 'Live!' I made you thrive like a plant in the field; and you grew, matured, and became very beautiful. Your breasts were formed, your hair grew, but you were naked and bare. When I passed by you again and looked upon you, indeed your time was the time of love; so I spread My wing over you and covered your nakedness. Yes, I swore an oath to you and entered into a covenant with you, and you became Mine," says the Lord GOD."

- Ezekiel 16:5—8

## Prayer

Pray about today's lesson. Here is an idea of what you could pray:

"Heavenly Father, it is clear. I need you. Please forgive me and be merciful toward me. I am a sinner. I feel the conviction of your Word and I thank you for it. Please do not let me become dull to it, but always make me sensitive and tenderhearted before you. Thank you Jesus for your wonderful invitation to come to you. I believe that you died for my sins."

Pray for the Lord's Day service:

1. Pray that everyone would think it is important to come and be able to come.
2. Pray for Sunday School and Pastor Tim's sermon.
3. Pray that we would encourage each other to love the Lord Jesus.



## Tuesday

Today we will be reading **Ecclesiastes 7:13 – 14**.

Solomon gives us a very important command today. He tells us to “Consider the work of God...” That means we need to take time to think about what God is doing in our lives. Because we are sinful people, we like to react and panic rather than think, live by faith, and walk calmly before God.

How can we have more faith and trust in God? We must stop and consider. The key point to consider and think about is that the Lord has caused both “good” and “bad” things to happen. When times are “good” we are joyful and the Bible says we should be. When the “good” times end and “bad” times come upon you it is a good reminder to stop and think.

First, remind yourself that God has planned and allowed this “bad” thing to happen to you. God’s plans are perfect.

Second, remember that you cannot change what God has done. If he has made something crooked, you cannot make it straight. If he has opened a door, you cannot close it.

Third, keep in mind that prosperity (good) and adversity (bad) only last for a day. In other words, the good times and the bad will not last forever. When you are flying high, be prepared for God to humble you and bring you back to earth. When you are in a horrible pit of sadness, know that your Father will not leave you there forever.

Lastly, when you are experiencing hardship, there is a certain sense in which God is always using it to deal with your sin. He may not be punishing you for “horrible” sin, though he might be, but he could just be working to destroy pride or selfishness or self-righteousness from your heart. When you feel like your life is going very poorly, stop and think. Is God trying to teach me a lesson here? How have I been living and thinking lately? Am I like my Savior or are there some areas that I can see obvious sin? After that, respond with repentance toward God and faith in our Lord Jesus Christ.

## Thursday Quiz

### True or False

- |   |   |   |
|---|---|---|
| 1. Everyone is a sinner.  | T | F |
| 2. If anyone says something bad about me, it automatically means they do not like me. | T | F |
| 3. We should seek God’s approval instead of man’s.                                    | T | F |
| 4. I am better than all the other jerks I know.                                       | T | F |
| 5. If someone talks bad about me, I need to talk bad about them so I can feel better. | T | F |
| 6. I should build people up and encourage them by what I say.                         | T | F |
| 7. Everyone that says something bad about another person is telling the truth.        | T | F |

## Prayer

Pray about today’s lesson. Here is an idea of what you could pray:

“Lord, help me to encourage and be kind to others. Remind me, when I am tempted to be angry with other people, that I am a sinner, just like they are. Help me to be a patient person, that loves to show mercy just like you do. Thank you for the mercy that you show me everyday.”

Pray for the leaders of our government. As always, pray that they would fear and honor the Lord Jesus with the decisions they make.

1. Steve McCord, Cattaraugus County Veterans Service Officer
2. Eric J. Hesse, Director NYS Division of Veterans’ Affairs
3. Eric K. Shinseki, Director U.S. Department of Veterans’ Affairs

## Thursday

Today you should read **Ecclesiastes 7:19-22**.

Today we begin by considering that wisdom provides us with great strength. Remember that the fear of the Lord is the beginning of wisdom and that when we fear God, there is nothing to be afraid of.

One part of wisdom and fearing God is the understanding that there is not one perfectly righteous and just person on the earth including yourself. Everyone is a sinner. When we have this understanding and keep it in mind, we will be better able to handle some of things that come our way in life.

When we understand that everyone is a sinner, we should be less sensitive to people saying bad things about us. When someone criticizes us or says unkind things about us, we tend to get angry. We need to remember that they are sinners, who do and say sinful things. We also need to remember that because they are sinners in a fallen world, they might be having a bad day. They might not even really mean to be unkind to you.

Also, remember that you are a sinner. Maybe the unkind things they say about you are true and you deserve it. Not only that, remember that you are not always the nicest person ever to live. You have been unkind and angry with people as well.

Pastor Tim gives good advice by saying, build people up with what you say. Don't tear them down.

One final thought about being careful what you hear and take to heart. Sometimes you will hear a person talking about other people. They might be saying awful things about the other person, but that does not necessarily mean it's true. They could be telling lies.

"If a ruler pays attention to lies, All his servants become wicked."

- Proverbs 29:12

## Tuesday Quiz

1. What command did Solomon give us today?

2. What do we need to do think about if we want to trust God more?

3. What do we know about God's plans?

4. How long do good and bad times last?

5. What is Solomon teaching when he tells us that you cannot make straight what God has made crooked?

## Prayer

Pray about today's lesson. Here is an idea of what you could pray: "Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, I sometimes find it hard to believe that everything that happens to a child of God is for his good. Please forgive my lack of faith and increase the faith I do have. Help me to worship you and trust you in the "bad" times. Help me not to forget you and grow proud in the "good" times.

Pray for your church family:

1. Ms. Britany Clark

2. Mr. and Mrs. Duff

3. Mrs. Reta Fallon

## Wednesday

Please read **Ecclesiastes 7:15-18**.

Today Solomon makes a troubling observation. He has noticed that some righteous people die at a very young age and some wicked people die at a very old age. When we notice this, we are tempted to say that God is not fair. We might even remember that God promises to bless the righteous and curse the wicked and then wonder why this does not appear to be happening.

As we have seen throughout the book of Ecclesiastes, we need to stop thinking in the short-term and start thinking in the long-term. The righteous will receive eternal life and blessing from Jesus, and the wicked will eventually receive eternal death and cursing from God.

Solomon then makes some strange statements. He says not to be overly righteous, overly wise, overly wicked, or overly foolish. What does he mean by all of that?

First, when he says not to be overly righteous, we should remember to guard against self-righteousness in our hearts. Remember that we are unholy and unrighteous. We need Jesus' righteousness in order to stand before God and Jesus has offered it to us freely because we don't deserve it. Another caution is to not act so "holy" that you neglect practical things. God doesn't want you to pray without sleeping until you die from exhaustion.

He also says do not be overly wise. Don't offer your opinion and advice to everyone as if you know everything. The Bible says, "Do you see a man wise in his own eyes? There is more hope for a fool than for him." (Proverbs 26:1)

Above all remember that you are unholy, you are not wise, and that you need Jesus. You need to fear God and depend on Him rather than on your supposed righteousness and wisdom. Bow humbly before Him.

## Wednesday Quiz

1. What fact can make us sometimes question God's fairness?

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2. Even if they live a long life, what will be the end result for the wicked?

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3. What is the sin of self-righteousness?

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## Prayer

Pray about today's lesson. Here is an idea of what to pray: "Dear God, please keep me from the sin of self-righteousness. I know that you hate that. I also know that self-righteousness comes from a wrong understanding of myself. Help me to see that I am a sinner in need of your grace. Also, Lord, please keep me from being overly wicked. Please restrain me. Don't let me go wild and spiral into deeper and deeper sin. Thank you, Jesus."

Pray for missionaries who tell others about Jesus:

This week's missionaries are the Simones. They set up radios for HCJB Radio Ministries.

