

# Ancient wisdom that works today

## Proverbs 1 – Character and growing wise

### 1. The goal of wisdom 1:2 - 6

- Proverbs will teach us the way
  - Wisdom, Discipline
  - Understanding and insight
  - Acquiring a disciplined and prudent life
- Wisdom – Right thing, Right way, Right time!
- Wisdom is for all – Let the wise listen and add!

### 2. The way to wisdom 1:7

- The fear of the Lord is the beginning of knowledge!
  - A doorway and a path
  - The Biblical worldview opens up the meaning of money, sex and power
  - Wisdom will reconcile every aspect of our lives.
  - Knowledge starts with God and is revealed to us.
- Romans 11: 33 – 36, Proverbs 15:33

### 3. Wise up! 8 - 19

- Proverbs faces up to life as it is.
- Choices to be made and a wise father tells the truth
  - Wisdom's call – we are made for glory and honour
  - Sinners entice – Gangs and violence
  - Unjust gain

### 4. Simple or wise, honoured or laughed at? 20 - 33

- Wisdom calls out
  - Street preacher – engaging where people are
- Wisdom warns
  - Simple one's act!
  - Jesus works with the responsive not the perfect.
  - I will laugh
- Laughing or listening?
- Wisdom offers
  - Live in safety, be at ease without fear of harm

## Digging Deeper

Read Proverbs 1: 1 – 7

1. What are the words in verses 1 – 4 that describe what Proverbs teach us? What do these words look like in everyday life?
2. How do we develop an attractive and winsome life?
3. What is the instruction given to the wise? How does this happen?
4. What does it mean to 'Fear the Lord'?

Read Proverbs 1: 8 -19

1. Do we spend more time talking about the way the world is supposed to be rather than the world as it is?
2. A garland to grace your head and a chain to adorn your neck. Do we grasp that God longs for my glory and honour?
3. What is unjust gain in today's world? Do we find ourselves drawn towards these?

Read Proverbs 1: 20 – 33

1. Wisdom is shown as a woman throughout proverbs. From verses 20 – 21 how would you describe her character?
2. What does the title 'simple' imply in proverbs? In what ways would that describe you?
3. How do you react to the words 'I will laugh at your disaster'?
4. What does wisdom offer v33?
5. How can you live wisely this week and what can the people around you do to help this take place?