

“Insights into Glorifying God in Every Detail of Life”
Proverbs 13:23-14:4

1 Peter 2:2-3

Titles of individual proverbs are adapted from *The Wisdom of Proverbs* by Bob Beasley

1. Manage Your Resources Prudently – 13:23

The 1st line says: even among the poorest of people, if there is diligence and wisdom applied to their work, they can produce what is necessary to sustain their life.

“injustice” – this proverb is a wake-up call to the hard working person. If you are unjust to others in your job, God is displeased and He will bring discipline

Galatians 6:7-10

2. Discipline Your Children in Love – 13:24

“spares the rod” – fails to discipline his children

Disciplining children is necessary because every child has a “heart” problem – Proverbs 22:15

Ephesians 6:4

“discipline” – the heart of the child will gravitate to wrong doing but discipline is part of the correction for wrong doing and to help us learn what is right and wrong and encourage us to choose the right.

“instruction” – not so much in factual information but in godly attitudes and principles of behavior

Proverbs 29:15

Things to remember about spanking:

- Never spank out of anger
- Never spank for the wrong reason: accidents, natural curiosity, desire to learn by touching, a natural habit, for something the child is not capable of doing
- Spanking should be reserved for direct defiance of parents’ authority, willful disobedience to the parents’ commands

“hates” – to withhold spanking is not a sign of love for the child. Instead, it signals that you love something or someone more than the child.

Our Heavenly Father is our example of disciplining – Hebrews 12:5-11

3. Be Satisfied with God’s Provision – 13:25

Two Biblical principles are at work in this proverb:

- God will meet our every need – Philippians 4:19
- Our appetites are changed as we go through the process of sanctification. As this happens, our needs are more easily satisfied.

“want” – the wicked is never satisfied (Ecclesiastes 6:7) and his needs keep growing
Isaiah 65:13-14

4. Women, Build Your Home in the Love of Christ – 14:1

“builds her house” – speaking of the many components that go into making a house a home

God established that wives are the biggest influence in the knitting together of a family and the day by day routine of creating a happy and comfortable place for the family to live.
She will fulfill Titus 2:3-5

“tears it down” – she neglects meeting the spiritual needs of her children.
She isn’t interested in submitting to her husband’s leadership

5. Prove Your Faith by Your Walk – 14:2

“fears the Lord” – a concern to give God the glory and honor He deserves along with a dread that seeks to avoid anything that would offend and dishonor God

6. Seek a Tongue of Humility – 14:3

“rod for his back” – not the rod of discipline that we saw in 13:24

ESV footnote: “in the mouth of a fool is a rod of pride”

LSB – “in the mouth of the ignorant fool is a rod of lofty pride”

NIV – “a fool’s mouth lashes out with pride”

7. Honor God by Your Hard Work – 14:4

“strength of the ox” – it is the strength of the ox that enables the farmer to bring in a good harvest.
The farmer may grow tired of cleaning up after his livestock. If he makes the decision to rid himself of the livestock, he will have a clean barn/manger. But he had better also calculate what he will lose when the livestock leave. He will have no mess but also no income and he will eventually go hungry.