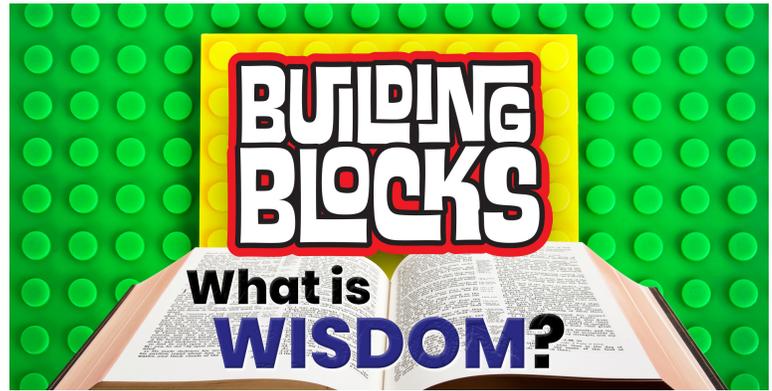


3 • Proverbs: A Book Full of Wisdom

“What is WISDOM?” We learned last week that wisdom is “**knowing which way to go.**” We **NEED** wisdom, and God



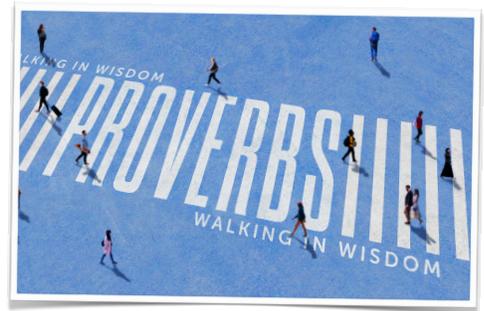
has given us a book full of wisdom right in the middle of our Bibles: **the book of Proverbs.**

But what’s a proverb? A **proverb** is **a short saying of everyday truth that’s easy to remember.** Do you realize that you’ve heard all sorts of proverbs that aren’t in the Bible? Sayings like:

- “Look before you leap.”
- “The early bird gets the _____.”
- “A picture is worth a thousand words.”
- “An apple a day keeps the _____ away.”

But nothing can compare with the wisdom God has given us in our Bibles. Some of his proverbs help us learn good “common sense.” Here’s an example:

Whoever blesses his neighbor with a loud voice, rising
_____ in the morning, will be counted as
cursing. (Proverbs 27:14)



But many of the proverbs talk about much more important lessons for life than waking a neighbor up too early. For example:

- The _____ we spend time with (Proverbs 1:10-19)
- How hard we _____ (Proverbs 6:6-11)
- Things God _____ (Proverbs 6:16-19)

Does Proverbs address every single choice we might ever have to make or every single slip-up that could cause us trouble? No. Can you imagine how **BIG** that book would have to be? But Proverbs **DOES** help us “fill in the blanks” of life, giving us what we need to make wise choices that will help us honor God and treat others the way we would like to be treated.

The world often says, “Live and learn.” Throughout the book of Proverbs, God is saying, “Learn and live” (Proverbs 4:1-9). Thank God for such an incredible gift as the treasure chest of Proverbs!

FOUNDATION STONES



What about you? Can you think of some other examples of everyday “proverbs” that aren’t in the Bible?

Let’s dig a little deeper into one of the verses mentioned in our video—[Proverbs 6:6-11](#). What can we learn from taking a long look at ants?

And what about [Proverbs 4:20-27](#)? What sort of wisdom is available to us in that passage?

In [Proverbs 20:11](#) we read, “[Even a child makes himself known by his acts, by whether his conduct is pure and upright.](#)” What does that mean? What do you want to be KNOWN for?

The call to “walk in wisdom” also shows up in the New Testament. Let’s read [Colossians 4:5-6](#) together. What does that mean? Why do we need wisdom, every time we go to school, spend time with friends, and meet new people?

NEXT Wednesday:

Next Wednesday we’ll look into the face of Jesus Christ, described in [1 Corinthians 1:30](#) as the one “[who became to us wisdom from God.](#)”