

Teaching Outline

Series: Making Wise Choices

Week Eight

Prov 6:1-35 (NLT)

¹ My child, if you have put up security for a friend's debt or agreed to guarantee the debt of a stranger—² if you have trapped yourself by your agreement and are caught by what you said—³ follow my advice and save yourself, for you have placed yourself at your friend's mercy. Now swallow your pride; go and beg to have your name erased.⁴ Don't put it off; do it now! Don't rest until you do.⁵ Save yourself like a gazelle escaping from a hunter, like a bird fleeing from a net.

Solomon is advocating for a _____ between generosity and personal financial responsibility.

⁶ Take a lesson from the ants, you lazybones. Learn from their ways and become wise!⁷ Though they have no prince or governor or ruler to make them work,⁸ they labor hard all summer, gathering food for the winter.⁹ But you, lazybones, how long will you sleep? When will you wake up?¹⁰ A little extra sleep, a little more slumber, a little folding of the hands to rest—¹¹ then poverty will pounce on you like a bandit; scarcity will attack you like an armed robber.

Solomon recommends that we balance _____ with _____.

¹⁶ There are six things the LORD hates— no, seven things he detests:¹⁷ haughty eyes,

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a lying tongue,

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hands that kill the innocent,

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¹⁸ a heart that plots evil,

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feet that race to do wrong,

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¹⁹ a false witness who pours out lies,

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a person who sows discord in a family.

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²⁰ My son, obey your father's commands, and don't neglect your mother's instruction.²¹ Keep their words always in your heart. Tie them around your neck.

²² When you walk, their counsel will lead you. When you sleep, they will protect you. When you wake up, they will advise you.²³ For their command is a lamp and their instruction a light; their corrective discipline is the way to life.

Without God's Word, His Spirit, His guidance/wisdom, we are actually walking in the dark!

God _____ us to live blessed lives.

For further reflection: Do I see balance in my life? Or am I prone to extremes?

Closing Song: Cornerstone