

Go! Beyond the Sermon...

Week of March 5, 2017 ~ Sermon Text: Proverbs 31:10-31

Read or listen to this week's Sermon text: **Proverbs 31:10-31**. Then compare and prayerfully engage with these five other Biblical passages as your week continues. This can be done individually. Households can use these together. Or this can be a tool for ongoing disciplinemaking relationships. Engage others with God and His Word! In doing so, we will all be further equipped as disciples who are making disciples!

Day 1 ~ Colossians 3:22-25

Truth: *for the Disciple* – We are called to work as if we are working for the Lord Himself. “*She dresses herself with strength and makes her arms strong.*” (Proverbs 31:17) “*Whatever you do, work heartily, as for the Lord and not for men.*” (Colossians 3:23)

Interaction: *for Disciplinemaking* – How might Paul's admonition to slaves be applicable to your work? In what ways is it not relevant? When you see yourself as working for the Lord, how does your perspective of work change? What does working heartily look like at your job? What motivation does Paul give for working in this way (v. 24)?

Challenge: *for Real Life* – Write down Colossians 3:23-24 on a notecard and commit it to memory. Pray through these verses this week before you begin your day.

Day 2 ~ Psalm 112

Truth: *for the Disciple* – We should seek to leverage our work for the benefit of the needy. “*She opens her hand to the poor and reaches out her hands to the needy.*” (Proverbs 31:20) “*It is well with the man who deals generously and lends; who conducts his affairs with justice.*” (Psalm 112:5)

Interaction: *for Disciplinemaking* – In what “*commandments*” should we delight? According to this Psalm, what are some of the characteristics of a righteous person? What are some of the blessings available to the righteous? What does it look like for you to “*conduct... affairs with justice*” (v. 5)?

Challenge: *for Real Life* – Look for ways to live out your faith in Christ publically this week. Ask God for opportunities to bless someone who is in need.

Day 3 ~ Jeremiah 29:1-9

Truth: *for the Disciple* – We have the opportunity to be a heavenly influence in our community. “*Her husband is known in the gates when he sits among the elders of the land.*” (Proverbs 31:23) “*But seek the welfare of the city where I have sent you into exile and pray to the Lord on its behalf...*” (Jeremiah 29:7)

Interaction: *for Disciplinemaking* – What is the political situation of the recipients of Jeremiah's letter? What do you think would have been the attitude of the people living in exile? Why might Jeremiah's advice been hard for them? What motivation do we have for being a blessing in our community?

Challenge: *for Real Life* – Make a list of five individuals you interact with in your workplace and commit to praying for them daily. Use this as an opportunity to discover needs or requests to pray about.

Day 4 ~ 1 Timothy 6:17-19

Truth: *for the Disciple* – Christians in the workplace must walk in dignity and integrity. “*Strength and dignity are her clothing, and she laughs at the time to come.*” (Proverbs 31:25) “*They are to do good, to be rich in good works, to be generous and ready to share.*” (1 Timothy 6:18)

Interaction: *for Disciplinemaking* – What commands does Paul want Timothy to give to the rich in his congregation? How would you characterize Paul's view of wealth and money? How does this passage influence your priorities at work? How does it impact your priorities at home?

Challenge: *for Real Life* – Create a mission statement for your career using this passage as a model. Indicate to how you wish to use your time, money and talents for God's glory and for your neighbor's blessing.

Day 5 ~ Ecclesiastes 7:1-29

Truth: *for the Disciple* – True wealth and security are found in humility and wisdom. “*She opens her mouth with wisdom, and the teaching of kindness is on her tongue.*” (Proverbs 31:26) “*For the protection of wisdom is like the protection of money, and the advantage of knowledge is that wisdom preserves the life of him who has it.*” (Ecclesiastes 7:12)

Interaction: *for Disciplinemaking* – According to this passage, what are some of the marks of wisdom? What is meant by comparing wisdom to an inheritance and a shelter? How does wisdom preserve life?

Challenge: *for Real Life* – Using this passage as a guide, identify some positive ways you can pursue wisdom. Share your insights with a trusted friend who can walk with you in these steps.