

# The Book of Proverbs

Godly Wisdom for Everyday Life

SSBC Proverbs Bible Study # 36

*Take this Bible Study home and use it to guide your exploration of the scripture passages that will be the basis of the sermon next week.*

**Topical Series: Wisdom Lived out in Community**

This Week's Key Passage: Proverbs 10:12

Sermon Date: June 15, 2008

**Strive to live at peace with others.**

How can we live in peace with others as the Bible teaches? Must we never disagree or argue? Does it mean that we must never hate anyone or anything? Does it mean dodging those who disagree with us unless we can win them over?

The Old Testament word for peace is “shalom”. It was always seen as a gift and blessing from God to his people.

We also find in the New Testament, that Jesus tells his disciples that peace comes from him, “my peace I give to you”, John 14:27.

Jesus sends us as his witnesses into a world which he says hated him and will hate us because of him (John 15:19). How then can we be faithful and still live at peace?

Let's look together at the “shalom” of the Bible and learn how to experience it in our daily lives.

1. Read this week's Bible passage and use the following charts to note your observations and any questions you have.  
 The first verse below is the key verse for this study. Keeping this verse in mind, read each of the subsequent verses and note how each provides further insight into the meaning of this key verse.

Scripture	Your Observation & Questions
<p><b>Key Text: Proverbs 10:12 NIV</b></p> <p><sup>10:12</sup> <u>Hatred stirs up dissension, but love covers over all wrongs.</u></p> <p><sup>12:20</sup> There is deceit in the hearts of those who plot evil, but joy for those who promote peace.</p> <p><sup>14:9</sup> Fools mock at making amends for sin, but goodwill is found among the upright.</p> <p><sup>16:7</sup> When a man's ways are pleasing to the LORD, he makes even his enemies live at peace with him.</p> <p><sup>16:28</sup> A perverse man stirs up dissension, and a gossip separates close friends.</p>	

Scripture	Your Observation & Questions
<p><sup>25:21</sup> If your enemy is hungry, give him food to eat; if he is thirsty, give him water to drink.</p> <p><sup>25:22</sup> In doing this, you will heap burning coals on his head, and the LORD will reward you.</p> <p><sup>26:4</sup> Do not answer a fool according to his folly, or you will be like him yourself.</p> <p><sup>26:21</sup> As charcoal to embers and as wood to fire, so is a quarrelsome man for kindling strife.</p>	

Scripture	Your Observation & Questions
<p>22:10 Drive out the mocker, and out goes strife; quarrels and insults are ended.</p>	
<p>24:17 Do not gloat when your enemy falls; when he stumbles, do not let your heart rejoice,</p>	
<p>24:18 or the LORD will see and disapprove and turn his wrath away from him.</p>	
<p>24:28 Do not testify against your neighbor without use, or use your lips to deceive.</p>	
<p>24:29 Do not say, "I'll do to him as he has done to me; I'll pay that man back for what he did."</p>	

Scripture	Your Observation & Questions
<p>17:9 He who covers over an offense promotes love, but whoever repeats the matter separates close friends.</p>	
<p>17:14 Starting a quarrel is like breaching a dam; so drop the matter before a dispute breaks out.</p>	
<p>17:19 He who loves a quarrel loves sin; he who builds a high gate invites destruction.</p>	
<p>18:19 An offended brother is more unyielding than a fortified city, and disputes are like the barred gates of a citadel.</p>	
<p>20:3 It is to a man's honor to avoid strife, but every fool is quick to quarrel.</p>	
<p>20:22 Do not say, "I'll pay you back for this wrong!" Wait for the LORD, and he will deliver you.</p>	

4. Our theme for this week is striving to live in peace.
  - a. How would you describe this state of “living in peace with others”?
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  - b. In Luke 2:13-14 a great company of the heavenly host appeared to announce the birth of Christ to the shepherds, “praising God and proclaiming peace on earth to men on whom his favor rests.” How would you describe the peace from God that is promised here? Consider Luke 1:67-79; John 14:25-27; Colossians 1:2-22 and Ephesians 2:14-22.
  
5. Our key text tells us that hatred stirs up dissension. What are some roots of the disagreement and quarrels you have seen among people? Consider Proverbs 13:10; James 3:16; 4:1-3
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
6. What are some ways we can avoid quarrels or dissension in our relationships? Consider Proverbs 17:14; Romans 12:18; 14:19; 15:5 and I Corinthians 1:10.
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
7. In Luke 12:51-53 and Matthew 10:34-37, Jesus tells us that he came to earth not to bring peace but division. How might we reconcile this statement with the command given to us to seek peace with everyone?
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
8. How can we stop a quarrel once it has begun? Consider Matthew 5:25; Proverbs 15:1; 16:7; and Colossians 3:12-14.
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
9. What are some steps you can take to ensure peace in your daily life with others? Consider Proverbs 16:7; Psalm 34:14; Philippians 2:1-5; Luke 2:14; and Galatians 5:22.
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
10. How can you apply what you have learned in this study to your life?

### **Memory Verse**

#### **Proverbs 16:7**

<sup>16:7</sup> When a man's ways are pleasing to the LORD, he makes even his enemies live at peace with him.

Do you have the peace of Christ that we have been discussing in this lesson? Romans 5:1 says: "Therefore, since we have been justified through faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ,". We can have peace with God by becoming a believer in Jesus Christ and once we have peace with God, it is much easier to be at peace within our self and with others.

We are all sinful people and have turned our backs on the holy God and his pure, life-giving law. As a result there is no peace for us with God, and peace eludes us everywhere we turn. But Jesus came to make peace for us with God. Everyone who is united with Christ is saved from God's punishment by the cross where Christ bore it fully and paid for all their sins. Whoever belongs to Christ is loved, reconciled and received into God's presence through his beloved Son.

Take a moment right now and surrender you life to Jesus. Place your trust in him alone to forgive your sin. Let him be the center of your life and he will lead you into God's peace and rest.

*These studies are produced by South Shore Baptist Church in conjunction with our weekly sermon series. Studies are distributed one week prior to the sermon and can be picked up from the table at the back of the sanctuary and are also posted at <http://sermonhouse.com/SSBC>.*

*Sermons are also recorded and can be listened to later by visiting that same website. Have feedback or questions? Contact **studyeditor@southshorebaptist.com***

*South Shore Baptist Church  
578 Main Street, Hingham, MA 02043  
(781) 749-2592*