

Scripture	Your Observation & Questions
<p>25:26 Like a muddied spring or a polluted well</p> <p>is a righteous man who gives way to the wicked.</p>	

The Book of Proverbs

Godly Wisdom for Everyday Life

SSBC Proverbs Bible Study # 43

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 24:11-12

Sermon Date: August 10, 2008

Protect life.

This week's theme is about protecting life. As our team gathered to study today's theme verses, we immediately asked, "Are we protecting against a physical death or a spiritual death?"

God, through Jesus Christ, made eternal spiritual life available to all mankind through his death and resurrection. I Corinthians 15:50 tells us that flesh and blood cannot inherit the kingdom of God and I Corinthians 15:45 tells us that Adam as the first man became a living being, but the second Adam, Jesus, became a life-giving spirit.

As you read through and study these verses think about the question, are these verses speaking about saving from physical or spiritual death or both? What implications would each position have for us? How should we change our lives in order to better "rescue?"

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>Key Verse Proverbs 24:11-12 (NIV)</p> <p>24:11 Rescue those being led away to death; hold back those staggering toward slaughter.</p> <p>24:12 If you say, "But we knew nothing about this," does not he who weighs the heart perceive it? Does not he who guards your life know it? Will he not repay each person according to what he has done?</p>	

2. Next, use this chart to interpret some key observations.

- a. From the chart on the previous pages, select a few of your observations & questions that you find most interesting or important. Rewrite these below, and then interpret and apply each of them using the columns to the right.
- b. For each observation, begin to interpret by asking yourself these kinds of questions:
- What does it mean?
 - Why is this important?
 - What does this tell me about the Father? Jesus? The Holy Spirit?
 - Are there other scriptures that could help me understand this?

Observation What does it Say?	Interpretation What does it mean?

7. Read Psalm 39:4-6 and James 4:13-14, what do these verses tell us about priorities of life and how we should use our time?

8. Consider Mark 8:31-38 and Luke 9:18-27. How do these verses fit into this weeks theme of "protecting life"? How can we learn to value our spiritual life more than our own fading, earthly life?

10. How can you apply what you have learned in this study to your life this week?

Memory Verse

Proverbs 24:11

^{24:11} Rescue those being led away to death;
hold back those staggering toward slaughter.

3. Now consider how you can **apply** the Word to your life. Look for:

- ◆ **S**ins to avoid
- ◆ **P**romises to believe
- ◆ **E**xamples to follow (remember "SPECK")
- ◆ **C**ommands to obey
- ◆ **K**nowledge to share

Don't just write things to write them — listen carefully to God's Word and what he seems to be teaching you, and look for relevant things that you're truly stirred to do. Then as you do them, God will help will help you learn, grow, and help others grow.

Application How do I apply what it means?

4. 4. Read Proverbs 24:11 and 24:12.
- a. Who are the ones that we are being told to rescue? Is it a rescue from physical or spiritual death? Consider Leviticus 5:1 and Matt. 7:13-14.

 - b. In 24:12, what might be the significance of the way the phony excuse is spoken in the plural as “we”? Note that the Hebrew original runs: “If you [singular form] say, ‘But we [plural] knew nothing. . .’”

 - c. In this same verse, what could be the purpose of mentioning the one that “weights the heart” in the second line?
5. Considering all of what is said in Proverbs 24:11-12, what would happen if we went against this teaching? What actions, then, should that motivate us to undertake?
6. What are some reasons God requires us to hold life as precious? What factors continually sap and impair the rightfully urgent zeal to rescue the perishing? Consider Genesis 9:6

Jesus Christ came to earth to save each of us, because we cannot save ourselves from sin and its consequences. No matter how good we are, we cannot eliminate the sinful nature that is present in all of us. (We all naturally try to control of our lives and do whatever we want without anyone telling us “no”—even God.)

Only Jesus can save us from ourselves. Jesus did not merely come to help people save themselves. He came to be our savior from the power and penalty of sin. Jesus went to the cross and was punished by God for the sins of each of his people. This may seem harsh, but it is true—Jesus took upon himself the punishment that each of us deserves, he stood in our place, so that now you and I can have eternal life and be accepted as sons and daughters of God. Isn’t that amazing?!!

Take the time right now to thank Jesus Christ for his death on the cross for your sin. Ask him to take control of your life and lead you into a closer walk with God. God’s promise of new life is yours the moment you put your trust in his Son.

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

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