

Growth Teams

Week Beginning
Sunday 12th March 2017

Going deeper

Proverbs is a book that teaches the virtues and foundation of wisdom as well as giving much specific advice. Wisdom is not about being clever, but about being able to discern the best course of action in life. It does not give truths that are universally true (e.g. 'murder is wrong'), but rather teaches what is probable (e.g. if you smoke lots, you'll die young). This section includes verses about 'love' and 'trustworthiness'.

Read Proverbs 3:1-10

4. Why does the writer say it is important to remember his teaching?
5. How does the writer emphasise the importance of 'love' and 'faithfulness'? Why does having these qualities give you a good reputation?
6. What reasons does the writer give for trusting God rather than our own ideas? How does this teaching differ from the teaching in our world today?
7. Why is it important to honour the Lord with our wealth?
8. In what sense are verses 9-10 always true? (cf. Mk. 10:29-30). Why do we need to be careful about how we teach these verses? (cf. 1 Tim. 6:11, 17-19).

Now do the applying it to our lives questions...

Growth Team News

The daytime Growth Teams are continuing, focussing on 2 Corinthians. Why not join one if you can?

There are no official evening Growth Teams running, but why not get together with one or two others and discuss together today's talk using the questions in this sheet? It could even be a commitment for Lent!



**Growing in Christ
to glorify God
and enjoy Him forever.**

What makes a good charity?

2 Corinthians 8:16-9:5 (page 1163)

Space to take notes on the talk

God _____ his...

- _____
- _____

The Church needs to _____ its...

- _____
- _____

Starter question

- ❖ Which charity (other than the church) do you most like to support?

Responding to the talk

1. What would you say was the key point of this week's talk?
2. Read 2 Corinthians 8:16-24
 - a. What does Paul say about Titus and the two brothers?
 - b. How do these words help the Corinthian church to trust these men?
 - c. Why is it important to do what is right in 'the eyes of men' as well as in the 'eyes of the Lord'?
 - d. Why does this not contradict what Jesus says in Matthew 6:1? (cf. also Matthew 5:13-16)
 - e. In verse 28, Paul encourages the Corinthians to 'prove their love'. How does completing the collection do this?
3. Read 2 Corinthians 9:1-5
 - a. Why does Paul tell the Corinthians about his boasting of them?
 - b. What reasons does Paul give for sending Titus and the two others ahead to encourage them to complete the collection?
 - c. How are Paul's plans and concerns a sign of his love for the Corinthians?

You may like to do the 'Going Deeper' questions over the page.

Applying it to our lives

9. What practical steps do we need to take as a church to be seen as 'trustworthy' in today's world?
10. In what ways can we as a church demonstrate 'our love' in the world today?