

Going Deeper

Jesus taught us to be like the wise man who built his house upon the rock, and here possibly picking up on that theme, Paul also calls on Christians to be wise...

Read Ephesians 5:15-21

5. Why are we to be 'very careful' how we live? (cf. 5:8-14)

6. Why are we to 'make the most of every opportunity'?

7. What specific thing do these verses point to as foolish? Why are they foolish?

8. How does Paul describe wise living? What specific things does Paul refer to as examples of wise living and making the most of the time?

9. How well do Christians today fulfil the calling to be 'careful about how they live' and to 'make the most of every opportunity'?

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



**Week Beginning
Sunday 31st March 2019**

Growth Team News

This week as it is Mothering Sunday, we will be looking at the teaching of a mother: the mother of King Lemuel!

This is the last Growth Team before an Easter break. Growth Teams will be back the week beginning 4th May.

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



The Wisdom of a Mother

Proverbs 31:1-9 (page 667)

Space to take notes on the talk

❖ **A S _____ Teacher**

❖ **A S _____ Teaching**

✓ **Avoid _____**

✓ **Avoid _____**

✓ **Advocate _____**

Starter question

- ❖ What wisdom that you learnt from your mother (or another female carer) do you most value?

Responding to the talk

1. What do you think was the wisest part of this week's teaching?
2. Read Proverbs 1:1-9
 - a. What is the purpose of the book of Proverbs?
 - b. How does the writer see the fundamental choice before us?
 - c. Proverbs is mainly attributed to Solomon (vs. 1). What is surprising about 1:8 and how does it reflect the Bible's teaching? (cf. 6:20; Exodus 20:12).
3. Read 31:1-9
 - a. Why does the book of Proverbs include the words of a mother of a non-Israelite king?
 - b. What parts of verses 1-9 sound like the words of a mother to a son? What kind of woman do you think Lemuel's mother was?
4. Read 31:1-9
 - a. Why does she warn Lemuel against women? (cf. 1 Kings 11:1-6; Proverbs 5:1-6)
 - b. Why is wine not for those who want to do their jobs well?
 - c. What is Lemuel's mother's vision for her son's rule?
 - d. How does this fit with the wider Biblical viewpoint? (cf. Psalm 72:1-2)

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

Applying it to our lives

10. What advice do you think it is most important to give a Christian young person who is about to leave home for a new job or college studies?
11. How can we discern what non-Christian wisdom to follow, what to adapt and what to reject?