

EXERCISE ONE: EXPOSING THE MEANING

Meditating on a chapter of Proverbs.

Let's complete Proverbs 16 as we listen to the next video. Use Dave's ideas and examples to come up with a strategy and style of your own. Make your observations as you go - and use your high lighter and pen - there are no right and wrong answers!

Watch the DEEPER #4 video now as you engage exercise one.

Proverbs 16.12-15

It is an abomination for kings to commit wicked acts,
For a throne is established on righteousness.
Righteous lips are the delight of kings,
And he who speaks right is loved.
The fury of a king is like messengers of death,
But a wise man will appease it.
In the light of a king's face is life,
And his favor is like a cloud with the spring rain.

Proverbs 16.16-22

How much better it is to get wisdom than gold!
And to get understanding is to be chosen above silver.
The highway of the upright is to depart from evil;
He who watches his way preserves his life.
Pride goes before destruction, and a haughty spirit before stumbling.

It is better to be humble in spirit with the lowly
Than to divide the spoil with the proud.
He who gives attention to the word will find good,
And blessed is he who trusts in the LORD.
The wise in heart will be called understanding,
And sweetness of speech increases persuasiveness.
Understanding is a fountain of life to one who has it,
But the discipline of fools is folly.

Proverbs 16.23-25

The heart of the wise instructs his mouth
And adds persuasiveness to his lips.
Pleasant words are a honeycomb,
Sweet to the soul and healing to the bones.

Proverbs 16.25-28

There is a way which seems right to a man,
But its end is the way of death.
A worker's appetite works for him, for his hunger urges him on.
A worthless man digs up evil, while his words are like scorching fire.
A perverse man spreads strife,
And a slanderer separates intimate friends.

Proverbs 16.29-33

A man of violence entices his neighbor
And leads him in a way that is not good.
He who winks his eyes does so to devise perverse things;
He who compresses his lips brings evil to pass.
A gray head is a crown of glory;
It is found in the way of righteousness.
He who is slow to anger is better than the mighty,
And he who rules his spirit, than he who captures a city.
The lot is cast into the lap, but its every decision is from the LORD.

My conclusions as I have studied Proverbs 16:

That Proverbs 15 sets up Proverbs 16. Once again I have to be careful of "chapter" markings.

My tongue and how I use it are a reflection of what is inside of me. And the "works" of my tongue belong to God.

A TEACHERS LOOK @ PROVERBS 16 <i>Works of my Tongue are Yours!</i>		
<i>Plans of the heart are mine.</i>	Proverbs 15:33	
<i>- Self-deception comes naturally</i>	FEAR = HUMILITY = HONOR	<i>Answer of my tongue is Yours.</i>
<i>- I must give my works to God</i>	16:9 His Direction	<i>- He assesses motives</i>
<i>- I do this by humbling myself (or paying dearly - 16:8)</i>	16:11 His Justice	<i>- When we fear Him we find Lovingkindness & truth</i>
	16:25 His Choice	
	16:32 His Way	<i>James 3:1-11</i>

If I want to be spiritual I can't trust my old heart - my old nature.

God works on a motive level - often we are much more surface (shallow?).

If I am going to find honor from Someone who matters, I will need to FEAR my Creator and find the WAY of humility - and not pride.

My tongue is very powerful - I can give words of strength or words that kill life (James 3:1-11). This is my choice - a very important choice in God's reality.

The rewards of fearing the Lord in this world are great - but especially in the world to come!

TOOL #5

The Holy Spirit to guide me into the Truth.

It is easy to underestimate the role of the Spirit in unlocking my heart to the Word of God. I would recommend asking God to use His Spirit to guide you every time you open the scriptures. What have you got to lose!?! Remember, when we meditate we are carrying on a conversation between our soul and our Father's heart. No moment should be wasted!

It seems we should be able to start anywhere in the story and tell The Story.
It seems we should be able to do the same in our own story.

My Story:

Where DID He intersect your life?

Where IS He currently intersecting your life and in your expanding faith?

God is not a one-time encounter - He is a woven story.

We are addressing critical bible reading skills:

- We are learning process discipline and how to make strong observations.
- We are attempting to determine impact upon the principle characters.
- We are sifting our personal world view through our Creator's grid of truth.

We have applied principles to Proverbs 16.

Now we will:

Investigate a gospel account: [John 8](#)

Look deeply into a psalm: [Psalm 63](#)

Contextualize a small book or a section of a book: [Colossians](#)

Pour over an involved teaching: [Romans 8](#)

View a parallel prophecy from two prophets: [Ezekiel 1/Revelation 4](#)

We will talk deeply about:

Encountering a reference - what was happening with these characters?

Expose meaning - what did this situation mean to each person present?

Enlighten our heart - what does it have to do with my life of faith?

How does the Holy Spirit help? He wants us to know the Father. He reveals the Father to us. He opens our mind, heart, and soul to be able to process truth.

EXERCISE TWO: JOHN 8

We now move to another kind of literature in the scriptures: applying our study skills to the teaching of Jesus. All of this occurs in the context of a woman caught in adultery and a confrontation in the temple treasury as the religious leaders attempt to entrap the Son of God. Good luck with that Pharisees!



The woman caught in adultery provides some excellent opportunity to understand the mission of Jesus as well as His relationship with the religious leaders.

It also is an intense teaching about the relationship between Jesus, the Jews, and Abraham, father of faith of all true Jews.

Dave refers to the diagram of the temple to the left to give you a feel for the location of the temple treasury, the court of the women, and the teaching environment where Jesus began to teach at 12 years old (amazing) and continued to do selectively until the point of His death. This is the very place where He will return to "Zion" when He comes in His glory!