***Douleuo Christian Mission***

***VERSES FOR***

***CHRISTIAN LIVING***

***by***

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**THAT PEOPLE CAN LIKE YOU**

**(for the right reasons)**

It follows clearly from the Bible that we should not try to please people, but only God. Sometimes the world will hate you, because you stand up for what is right in God's eyes and say no to what is wrong in His eyes (all according to what we learn from the Bible). But many times people are unpopular not because they take a stand for what is right in God’s eyes, but because they simply behave badly and do wrong things. The verses that follow will help the person who obeys them to address this aspect.

1. Titus 2: 8 – Live in such a way that those who are against you will be put to shame, having nothing bad to say about you.
2. Proverbs 23: 24-25 – Let there be good reason for your father and mother be proud of you.
3. Proverbs 16: 7 – When a man’s ways are pleasing to the Lord, He will make even his enemies to be at peace with him.

**FOCUS ON THE FOLLOWING:**

1. WISDOM (A)

Proverbs 10: 1 – A **wise** child makes a father glad, but a foolish one is grief to his mother.

AND

Proverbs 12: 8 – A person is praised for **wisdom**, but one with an evil mind is despised.

1. KINDNESS (B)

Proverbs 3: 3-4 – Do not let **kindness** and truth leave you. … Then you will find favour and a good name in the eyes of God and man.

1. ANGER (C)

Proverbs 14: 17 – Someone who easily gets **angry**, acts foolishly. People hate such a person and his evil ideas.

1. TRUTH (D)

Proverbs 3: 3-4 – Do not let **kindness** and truth leave you. … Then you will find favour and a good name in the eyes of God and man.

1. ARE YOU RELIABLE? (Can people trust you?) (E)

Proverbs 13: 15 – Good understanding gives you favour, but the way of an **unreliable** person is hard.

1. LOYALTY (F)

Proverbs 21: 21 – He who is righteous and **loyal**, finds life, righteousness and honour.

1. GOOD DEEDS (G)

Proverbs 11: 27 – He who diligently seeks **good** seeks favour, but evil will come to him who seeks evil.

1. A GOOD AND HARD WORKER (H)

Proverbs 14: 35 – The king’s favour is towards a **servant** who **acts wisely**, but his anger is towards him who acts shamefully.

1. MONEY AND POSSESIONS (I)

Proverbs 22: 1 – Rather desire a **good name** than great wealth. **Favour** is better than silver or gold.

**PEOPLE WHO DOES NOT LIKE**

**TO BE CORRECTED (A)**

1. Proverbs 1: 7 – Fools despise wisdom and instruction.
2. Proverbs 10: 17 – Whoever listens to instruction is on the path of life, but who ignores correction goes astray.
3. Proverbs 12: 1 – Whoever loves to be disciplines loves knowledge, but who hates to be corrected is stupid.
4. Proverbs 13: 18 – Poverty and shame will come to the one who neglects discipline, but he who accepts correction will be honoured.
5. Proverbs 26: 12 – There is more hope for a fool than for a person who is wise in his own eyes.

**THINGS THAT ARE NOT FITTING FOR A FOOL** **(A)**

1. Proverbs 17: 7 – Excellent speech is not fitting for a fool.
2. Proverbs 19: 10 – Luxury is not fitting for a fool
3. Proverbs 26: 1 – Honour is not fitting for a fool.
4. Proverbs 24: 7 – Wisdom is too high for a fool.

**WISDOM (A)**

1. Proverbs 16: 16 – It is much better to get wisdom and understanding than silver and gold.
2. Proverbs 1: 7 – Serving the Lord is the beginning of knowledge.

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1. Proverbs 2: 6 – The Lord gives wisdom, from His mouth comes knowledge and understanding.

*If you surrender your life to God through Jesus Christ our Saviour and start seeking His wisdom, as He teaches us in the Bible, the following will begin to happen:*

1. Proverbs 2: 10 – Wisdom will enter your heart,

knowledge will be pleasant to you,

good judgement will guard you

and understanding will watch over you.

**WHY I WANT TO SERVE GOD (A)**

**MY ETERNAL FUTURE**

1. John 3: 16 – God so loved the world that He gave His only Son, so that whoever believes in Him will not perish, but will have eternal life.
2. Colossians 1: 20 – Through the blood of His Son on the cross, God made peace between Himself and man.
3. Colossians 2: 13-4 – God forgave our sins and removed our debt certificates by nailing it to the cross.
4. 1 John 5: 12 – He who has the Son has life, but he who does not have the Son of God does not have life.

**FOR MY LIFE ON EARTTH**

1. Proverbs 4: 18-19 – The path of the righteous is like the light of dawn that shines brighter and brighter until the full day.

The way of the wicket is like darkness, they do not even know over what they stumble.

1. Proverbs 10: 24-25 – What the wicked fears will come upon him, but the desire of the righteous will be granted. When problems come like a storm, the wicked is no more, but the righteous will stand.
2. Proverbs 2: 6 – Even if the righteous falls seven times, he rises again, but the wicked falls flat in times of trouble.

**YOUR FUTURE** **(A)**

1. Proverbs 14: 12 – There is a way which seems right to a man, but its end is the way of death.
2. Proverbs 19: 21 – Many plans are in a man’s heart, but the plans of God will stand.
3. Proverbs 3: 5-7 – Trust in the Lord with all your heart and do not lean on your own understanding. Ask His will in all you do and He will show you the right way. Do not be wise in your own eyes.
4. Proverbs 4: 25-27 – Look straight ahead and focus on what is in front of you. Watch the path of your feet and you will be sure of your way. Do not turn to the right or to the left, and turn your feet from evil.

**KINDNESS (B)**

1. Proverbs 3: 3-4 – Do not let kindness and truth leave you. … Then you will find favour and a good name in the eyes of God and man.
2. Matthew 5: 47 – If you greet only your brothers, what more are you doing than others? Do not even the ungodly do the same?
3. Romans 12: 13 – Practice hospitality.
4. Galatians 6: 10 – While we have opportunity, let us do good to all people.
5. 1 Thessalonians 5: 13-14 – Live in peace with one another… encourage those who need encouragement, help the weak and be patient with everyone.

**GETTING ANGRY QUICKLY** **(C)**

**CONTROL YOURSELVE**

1. Proverbs 14: 17 – Someone who easily gets angry, acts foolishly. People hate such a person and his evil ideas.
2. Proverbs 29: 11 – A fool loses his temper, but a wise man holds it back.
3. James 1: 19 – Everyone must be quick to hear, slow to speak and slow to anger.
4. Proverbs 14: 29 – Whoever is slow to anger has great understanding, but he who is quick to become angry only shows how foolish he is. A calm heart is life to the body, but passion is bad for your health.

**THINGS THAT WILL CONTRIBUTE TO SELFCONTROL**

1. Proverbs 22: 24 – Do not associate with a man who easily gets angry, or you will learn his ways.
2. Philippians 4: 5 – Let your gentle spirit be known to all.
3. Proverbs 15: 1 – A gentle answer turns away anger, but a harsh answer stirs it up.
4. Colossians 4: 6 – Let your speech always be with grace (see **page** **11** for the meaning of ***grace***), as seasoned with salt, so that you would know how to answer each person.

**GETTING INTO ARGUMENTS** **(C)**

1. Proverbs 17: 4 – Evil doers listen eagerly to evil stories.
2. Proverbs 3: 30 – Do not start an argument with someone who has done you no harm.
3. Proverbs 20: 3 – Keeping away from arguments is an honour for a man, for any fool can argue.
4. Proverbs 18: 6 – A fool’s lips bring arguments. His mouth calls for someone to give him a hiding.
5. Matthew 5: 9 – Blessed are the peacemakers, for they will be called children of God.

**MOCKING OTHERS** **(C)**

1. Proverbs 4: 24 – Put evil talk away from you and stay far away from silly talk.
2. Proverbs 3: 34 – God mocks those who mock others.
3. Proverbs 22: 10 – Chase away those who mock others and arguments will stop, while fighting and talking bad about each other will come to an end.
4. Proverbs 22: 11 – He whose speech is full of grace, will have the king as a friend.

**TALKING TOO MUCH** **(C)**

1. Proverbs 18: 21 – Death and life are in the power of the tongue, those who love to talk a lot will eat its fruit
2. Proverbs 10: 19 – Where there are many words, wrong things will come out. Who controls his lips is wise.
3. Proverbs 13: 3 – Whoever guards his mouth guards his life, but who opens wide his lips bring destruction upon himself.
4. Proverbs 14: 3 & 18:7 – The mouth of a fool is a rod for himself… His lips are a trap for himself.

**THINK BEFORE TO SPEAK** **(C)**

1. James 1: 19 – Everyone must be quick to hear, slow to speak and slow to anger.
2. Proverbs 18: 13 – He who gives an answer before he hears the question, is foolish en shame will come upon him.
3. Proverbs 17: 27-28 – He who controls his words has knowledge and he who stays calm has understanding. Even a fool seems wise when he keeps silent.

**OVERCOMING EVIL WITH GOOD** **(C)**

1. Romans 12: 19 – Never take revenge, but leave room for God to act, for God Himself said, “I will punish, I will repay”.
2. Romans 12: 21 – Do not be overcome by evil, but overcome evil with good.
3. 1 Peter 3: 9 – Do not return evil with evil or insult with insult, but give a blessing instead, so that you also can be blessed.
4. Romans 12: 20 – Every time your enemy is hungry, feed him, and when he is thirsty, give him a drink. In doing so you will heap burning coals upon his head.
5. Proverbs 24: 17 – Do not rejoice when your enemy falls or be glad when he stumbles, or the Lord will see it and not be happy with you.
6. Matthew 5: 44 – Love your enemies and pray for those who persecute you.

**GRACE & MERCY (C)**

1. Psalms 145: 8 – God is slow to anger and full of love, full of mercy and full of grace.

MERCY – when I deserve punishment, but it is not given to me.

GRACE – when I don’t deserve a good thing, yet it is given to me.

1. Ephesians 5: 1 – Be imitators of God, as beloved children.
2. Matthew 5: 7 – Blessed are the merciful, for they shall receive mercy.
3. Proverbs 11: 16-17 – A gracious person receives honour … A merciful person does himself good, but a cruel person does himself harm.

**SPEAKING THE TRUTH (E & F)**

**DON’T LIE**

1. Ephesians 5: 8-9 – Walk as children of Light, for the fruit of the Light is goodness and righteousness and truth.
2. Proverbs 12: 19 – The truth is forever, but lies only for a moment.

**WHAT HAPPENS TO LIERS?**

1. Proverbs 12: 22 – God hates lying lips, but delights in those who stay faithful to their word.
2. Proverbs 19: 5 – A false witness will not go unpunished, and he who tells lies will not escape.

**WHAT HAPPENS TO THOSE WHO SPEAK THE TRUTH?**

1. Proverbs 2: 7 – God protects those who walk in integrity.
2. Proverbs 3: 3-4 – Do not let kindness and truth leave you. … Then you will find favour and a good name in the eyes of God and man.

**STEALING THINGS** **(E & F)**

1. Proverbs 13: 11 – Wealth obtains by fraud will disappear, but the one who gathers things by hard work, will have more and more.
2. Proverbs 21: 6 – Things gained through lies is a fleeting vapour.
3. Proverbs 20: 17 – Bread obtained by falsehood is sweet to a man, but afterwards his mouth will be filled with gravel.
4. Proverbs 6: 30-31 – Do not despise a thief if he steals when he is hungry. But when he is found, he must repay sevenfold, even if he must give all that he has in his house.
5. Proverbs 29: 24 – Who partners with a thief, hates his own life.

**BAD FRIENDS** **(E & F)**

1. Proverbs 27: 17 – Iron sharpens iron, so one man forms another.
2. 1 Corinthians 15: 33 – Do not be deceived, bad company corrupts good morals.
3. Proverbs 1: 10 – If sinners invite you, do not listen to them, if they say, “Come with us…”
4. Proverbs 4: 14-15 – Do not enter the path of the wicked. Avoid it. Turn away from it and pass on.
5. Proverbs 13: 20 – Who walks with wise men will be wise, but who walks with fools will suffer harm.
6. Proverbs 14: 7 – Leave the presence of a fool, for you will not learn words of knowledge from him .
7. Proverbs 18: 24 – A man of too many friends comes to ruin, but there is a friend who sticks closer than a brother.

**WHEN EVIL PEOPLE ARE UPSET AT YOU FOR NOT BEING THEIR FRIENDS (E & F)**

**DON’T BE AFRAID**

1. Philippians 1: 28 – In no way be alarmed by your opponents.
2. Proverbs 29: 25 – The fear of man is a snare, but who trusts in the Lord will be lifted up.
3. Proverbs 25: 26 – Like muddy and polluted water is a righteous man who gives way before the wicked.

**BE STRONG**

1. Proverbs 28: 1 – The wicked flee with no one chasing them, but the righteous are as bold as a lion.
2. Psalms 18: 29 – With my God I can storm a great force, with my God I can leap over a wall.

**ENVYING EVIL POEPLE** **(E & F)**

**(desire to be with them)**

1. Proverbs 24: 1 – Do not be envious of evil people, nor desire to be with them.
2. Proverbs 24: 19-20 – Do not be envious of the wicked, for there will be no future for the evil man. The lamp of the wicked will be put out.

Also remember the verses learned at: **WHY I WANT TO SERVE GOD**.

**LOYALTY** **(E & F)**

1. Proverbs 20: 6 – Many say they are loyal, but who can find someone who can be trusted?
2. Proverbs 21: 21 – He who is righteous and loyal, finds life, righteousness and honour.
3. Proverbs 19: 22 – Loyalty in a man is important, for it is better to be poor than unreliable.
4. Proverbs 26: 27 – He who digs a pit for others, will fall into it. He who rolls a stone in front of others, it will come back to him.

**PARTIALITY** **(E & F)**

1. Proverbs 28: 21 – To show partiality is not good.
2. 1 Timothy 5: 21 – Follow God’s principles without bias or showing partiality to anyone.
3. Proverbs 20: 23 – God hates differing weights. A false scale is not good.

**GOSSIPING (E & F)**

1. Proverbs 25: 9-10 – Speak with your neighbour and do not reveal the secret of another, or you will get the bad name of one who gossips.
2. Proverbs 20: 19 – He who walks and gossips reveal secrets. Do not associate with a gossip.

**JEALOUSY (E & F)**

1. Proverbs 27: 4 – Wrath is fierce and anger is a flood, but who can stand before jealousy?
2. 1 Corinthians 13: 4 – Love is not jealous.
3. Romans 12: 15 – Rejoice with those who rejoice, and cry with those who cry.

**GOOD DEEDS** **(G)**

1. Proverbs 11: 27 – He who diligently seeks good seeks favour, but evil will come to him who seeks evil.

**DO GOOD**

1. Ephesians 5: 8-9 – Walk as children of Light, for the fruit of the Light is goodness and righteousness and truth.
2. Matthew 5: 16 – Let your light shine before men in such a way that they may see your good works and gloryfy your Father in heaven.
3. Matthew 7: 12 – Treat people the same way you want them to treat you.

**DON’T WAIT OR GROW WEARY**

1. Proverbs 3: 27-28 – Do no withhold good from those in need, when it is in your power to do so. Do not say to your neighbour, “Go and come back, and tomorrow I will give it,” when you have it with you.
2. Galatians 6: 9 – Do not lose heart in doing good, for if you do not grow weary, you will reap the reward at the right time.

**HELPING THE POOR (G)**

1. Proverbs 21: 13 – Who shut his ear to the cry of the poor, will also cry himself and not be answered.
2. Proverbs 14: 31 – Whoever oppresses the poor insults his Maker, but who gives grace to the needy, honours Him.
3. Proverbs 19: 17 – One who gives grace to the poor man lends to the Lord, and He will repay him for his good deed.
4. Proverbs 11: 24-25 – There is one who gives a lot, and yet increases all the more, and one who does not give when he can, and yet he always lacks. The generous man will be prosperous, for he who waters will himself be watered.

**SELFISHNESS** **(G)**

1. 1 Corinthians 13: 5 – Love does no seek its own good.
2. 1 Corinthians 10: 24 – Let no one seek his own good, but that of his neighbour.
3. Proverbs 25: 16 – When you found honey, eat only what you need. If you take more than you need, you will vomit.

**LAZYNESS** **(H)**

1. Proverbs 6: 6 – Go to the ant, you lazy man. See what he does and be wise. He has no chief, officer or ruler over him, yet he gathers his food at the right time. How long will you lie down, o lazy man? When will you rise from your sleep? A little sleep, a little lying down, a little folding of the hands to rest, and your poverty will come like an armed robber.
2. Proverbs 22: 13 – The lazy man says, “There is a lion outside, I will be killed in the streets.”
3. 2 Thessalonians 3: 10 – If anyone is not willing to work, then he is not to eat, either.
4. Proverbs 13: 4 – The lazy person desires things, but gets nothing. The one who works hard, gets what he desires.
5. Proverbs 15: 19 – The way of the lazy is covered with thorns, but the way of the upright is a highway.

**HOW YOU MUST DO YOUR WORK** **(H)**

**DON’T WORK WITH A LAZY ATTITUDE**

1. Proverbs 14: 23 – In all labour there is profit, but mere talk leads only to poverty.
2. Proverbs 10: 4 – He who works with a lazy hand is poor, but the hand of the hard worker makes rich.
3. Proverbs 18: 9 – He who is lazy in his work is the brother of him who destroys.

**GIVE YOUR BEST**

1. Colossians 3: 23 – Whatever you do, do your work with all your heart, as for the Lord and not for men.
2. 1 Corinthians 10: 31 – Whether you eat or drink or whatever you do, do all to the glory of God.
3. Proverbs 22: 29 – He who is skilled in his work, will stand before kings.

**BE WISE**

1. Proverbs 28: 19 – He who works in his land will have plenty to eat. But he who follows empty things will have poverty of plenty.
2. Proverbs 27: 18 – Who cares for his master, will be honoured.

**HASTE / THINK BEFORE YOU DO THINGS (H)**

1. Ephesians 5: 15 – Be careful how you walk, not as unwise but as wise men.
2. Proverbs 19: 2 – It is not good to be without knowledge, but he who is in a hurry make mistakes.
3. Proverbs 21: 5 – The plans of the diligent leads to advantage, but everyone who is hasty comes to poverty.
4. Proverbs 29: 20 – There is more hope for a fool, than someone who is hasty in his words.

**ASK FOR ADVICE** **(H)**

1. Proverbs 20: 5 – A plan in the heart of a man is like deep water, but a man of understanding draws it out.
2. Proverbs 15: 22 – Without sitting together, plans are frustrated, but with many counsellors they succeed.
3. Proverbs 20: 18 – Prepare plans by consultation, and make war by wise guidance.
4. 1 Peter 1: 13 – Prepare your mind for action and stay sober in your thinking (no emotions allowed).

**PRIDE & ARROGANCE** **(H)**

**DON’T THINK TOO MUCH OF YOURSELF**

1. 1 Corinthians 4: 7 – Who regards himself as superior? What do you have that you did not receive? And if you did receive it, why do you boast as if you did not receive it?
2. Proverbs 13: 10 – Through arrogance comes arguments, but wisdom is with those who can listen to others.
3. Proverbs 18: 2 – A fool does not delight in understanding, but only in making his own opinion known.

**DON’T BRAG**

1. Proverbs 25: 27 – Seeking your own glory is like eating too much honey.
2. Proverbs 27: 2 – Don’t praise yourself, but rather let others praise you.
3. 1 Corinthians 13: 4 – Love does not brag and is not arrogant.

**THE PRICE OF PRIDE & ARROGNACE**

1. Proverbs 16: 5 – God hates a proud heart. Such a person will not go unpunished.
2. Proverbs 16: 18 – Pride comes before destruction and arrogance before stumbling.
3. Proverbs 15: 33 – Humility leads to honour.

**WHAT MAY I THEN DO REGARDING MY SUCCESSES?**

1. Galatians 6: 4 – Each one must examine his own work, and then (if he did good) he will have reason to boast, but in himself alone, and not in comparison with others.

**BEAUTY (H)**

1. Proverbs 11: 22 – Like a gold ring in the snout of a pig, so is the beauty of a woman who lacks good judgement.
2. Proverbs 31: 30 – Charm is deceitful and beauty is vain. But a woman who serves the Lord shall be praised.

**MONEY (I)**

**DO NOT DESIRE TO BE RICH**

1. Matthew 6: 24 – You cannot serve God and wealth (mammon).
2. Proverbs 23: 4 – Do not weary yourself to gain wealth. Stop even thinking about it.
3. 1 Timothy 6: 9 – Those who want to get rich fall into temptations and a snare, and many foolish and harmful desires that will destroy them.
4. 1 Timothy 6: 10 – For the love of money is a root of all sorts of evil. Some, by longing for it, have wandered away from the faith.

**THE CORRECT ATTITUDE REGARDING MONEY**

1. Proverbs 10: 22 – It is the blessing of the Lord that makes rich.
2. Hebrews 13: 5 – Keep your character is free from the love of money and be content with what you have.
3. 1 Timothy 6: 8 – If you have food and covering, with these you shall be content.
4. Proverbs 22: 1 – Rather desire a good name than great wealth. Favour is better than silver or gold.

**TAKING CARE OF YOUR STUFF** **(I)**

1. Proverbs 27: 23 – Know the condition of your flocks and pay attention to your cattle.
2. Proverbs 27: 18 – He who take well care of the fig tree will eat its fruit.
3. Proverbs 21: 20 – There is precious treasure and oil in the house of the righteous, but a foolish man swallows it up.
4. Proverbs 14: 1 – The wise woman builds her house, but the foolish tears it down with her own hands.

**ASKING FOOLS OR EVIL PEOPLE FOR HELP**

1. Proverbs 26: 6 – To send a message with a fool is like cutting of your own hand or drinking poison.
2. Proverbs 25: 19 – To put your confidence in a faithless man in time of trouble, is like a bad tooth or a weak foot.
3. Proverbs 26: 10 – Who hires a fool or anyone who passes by, is like someone who shoots in any direction without aiming.

**WORRIES**

**DON’T WORRY**

1. Matthew 6: 31-32 – Do not worry about what you will eat or drink of wear, for the ungodly seeks these things, but your Father in heaven knows what you need.
2. Matthew 6: 33 – Seek first God’s kingdom and His righteousness and all these things will be added to you.
3. Philippians 4: 6 – Be anxious about nothing, but in everything by prayer and supplication and thanksgiving, make your requests known to God.

**THEREFORE, DON’T FEAR**

1. Psalms 112: 7 – I will not fear bad news, my heart is steadfast, trusting in the Lord.

EVEN WHEN THINGS BECOME **WORSE**

1. Psalms 27: 3 – Though my enemies surround me, my heart will not fear.

AND **EVEN MORE** **WORSE**

1. Psalms 27: 3 – Though war breaks out against me, I will still be confident.

MORE THAN THE DESIRE THAT THE WAR MUST **STOP** AND THE ENEMY (MY PROBLEMS) MUST **GO AWAY**, I DESIRE:

1. Psalms 27: 4 – One thing I have asked from the Lord, that I shall seek: that I will always be His temple, that I will see the beauty of the Lord and that I will meditate on Him and His Word.

**SORROW AND JOY**

**SORROW WILL BREAK YOU**

1. Proverbs 17: 22 – A joyful heart is good medicine, but a broken spirit makes you sick.

**TO OVERCOME IT**

1. FORGIVENESS: Ephesians 4:32 – Be kind and gentle of heart to one another, forgiving each other, just as God in Christ also has forgiven you.
2. STOP THINKING ABOUT IT: 1 Corinthians 13: 5 – Love does not keep book of wrongs.
3. STOP IMAGINING THINGS: Proverbs 15:15 – All the days of a downdhearted and discouraged heart in tough times are made even worse by evil and scary thoughts and day dreaming, none of which are true. But whoever has a glad heart has a continual feast of good feelings, regardless of his circumstances.
4. RENEW YOUR MIND: Romans 12:2 – Do not be like the world, but be changed by renewing your mind (by thinking according to God’s Word).
5. GUARD YOUR HEART: Proverbs 4:23 – Watch over your mind with all your heart, for what you think determine what you do.
6. TALK WITH GOD ABOUT IT: Philippians 4: 6 – Be anxious about nothing, but in everything by prayer and supplication and thanksgiving, make your requests known to God.
7. TRUST GOD- Isaiah 26: 3 – You, o Lord, will guard those who set their minds on You, and let them live in peace, for they trust completely in You.
8. REJOICE IN GOD – Philippians 4: 4 – Rejoice in the Lord always, I repeat, rejoice!
9. CHOSE TO KEEP ON **REMEMBERING** ALL THE ABOVE AND KEEP ON **WALKING IN IT**: Psalms 42:5 – Why are you troubled, o my heart? Hope expectantly in the Lord. I will still praise Him, for He is my Help.

**DATING (having a boyfriend / girlfriend)**

Proverbs 24: 27 – Prepare your fields, before you build your house.

First **complete** your school career and work on your future, what you want to do with your life, before you take a girlfriend or boyfriend. Even after school, don't rush. First enjoy your life as a young adult after school on your own without a relationship tying you down. If you are going to work after school, first enjoy your salary for a while, instead of having a boyfriend or girlfriend on whom you now also have to spend money. If you are going to study, first finish your studies.

If you are old enough and convinced that you are now ready for dating with someone special that you have met, before you say yes for a relationship, you must first know the following about that person:

1. Does he/she serve the Lord with his/her whole heart (among other things, does he/she pray a lot, reads the Bible every day, lives according to the Bible and attends a good church regularly, etc.).
2. Does he/she believe that sex before marriage is sin - is he/she willing to wait for it until AFTER he/she is married.
3. If you are a girl, can that man ALREADY take care of you? In other words, he must ALREADY have a job, earning enough money to take care of you. Not the promise of "When I finish my studies, I'm going to earn so much and so much and we're going to be able to live happily together...". Then you just wait until he has finished studying and starts earning that salary he promised. Only then can you say yes - it's the wise thing to do. Don't build a relationship on promises that haven't happened yet - it might never happen the way he thought it would.

**PARENTING**

1. Proverbs 20: 7 – Blessed are the children of the righteous man who walks in integrity.
2. Proverbs 22: 6 – Train up a child in the way he should go, and even when he is old he will not depart from it.
3. Proverbs 22: 15 – Foolishness is in the heart of a child, but the rod of discipline will remove it far from him.
4. Proverbs 23: 13 – Do not hold back discipline from the child. Although you strike him with the rod, he will not die. You shall strike him with the rod and rescue his soul from hell.
5. Proverbs 25: 4 – Take the impurity out of silver and the silver smith can do something good with it.

**WHEN YOU VISIT SOMEONE**

1. Proverbs 23: 1 – When you sit down to eat with a ruler, look carefully at what is before you. Put a knife to your throat.
2. Proverbs 27: 6-8 – Do not eat the bread of a selfish man or desire his nice food … His heart is not with you … You will vomit up what you have eaten, and waste your compliments.
3. Proverbs 25: 17 – Let your foot rarely be in your neighbour’s house, or he will grow tired of seeing you and start to dislike you.

**EVIL PEOPLE**

1. Proverbs 1: 18-19 – The road of those who want to get things through violence: They lie in wait for their own blood. They ambush their own lives.
2. Proverbs 11: 27 – Evil will come to him who seeks evil.
3. Proverbs 17: 11 – A rebellious man seeks only evil, so a cruel messenger will be sent against him.
4. Proverbs 14: 11 – The house of the wicked will be destroyed, but the tent of the upright will flourish.

**ALCOHOL & PLEASURE**

**STAY AWAY FROM ALCOHOL**

1. Proverbs 21: 17 – He who loves pleasure will become a poor man, he who loves wine and oil will not become rich.
2. Proverbs 20: 1 – Wine makes you mock people and strong drink results in fighting. Whoever surrender himself to it is not wise.

**STAY AWAY FROM DRINKERS**

1. Proverbs 23: 20-21 – Do not be with heavy drinkers of wine or people who over eat. The heavy drinker and the one who eats too much will become poor, and they will be clothed with rags.

**WHO MAY DRINK?**

1. Proverbs 31: 4 – It is not for kings to drink wine or for rulers to desire strong drink.
2. Proverbs 31: 6-7 – Give strong drink to him who is perishing, and wine to him whose life is bitter.

**TRYING TO SERVE GOD,**

**WHILE CONTINUING TO LIVE IN SIN**

1. Proverbs 15: 3 – The eyes of the Lord are in every place, watching the evil and the good.

**A FALSE FAITH**

1. 1 John 1: 6 – If I say I have fellowship with Him and yet walk in the darkness, I lie and do not have the truth.
2. 1 John 2: 4 – If I say I know Him and yet do not obey his commands, I lie and do not have the truth.
3. Psalms 50: 16 – “What right have you to tell of My word?” says the Lord, “For you hate discipline and throw My words behind you.”

**THE CONSEQUINCES**

1. Proverbs 15: 8 – God hates the sacrifice of the wicked, but delights in the prayer of the upright.
2. Proverbs 21: 3 – To do righteousness and justice is desired by the Lord more than sacrifice.
3. Proverbs 28: 9 – He who turns his ears away from listening to God’s word, his prayers will be rejected.

**OBEDIENCE TO GOD**

**OBEY GOD’S WORD**

1. John 8: 47 – Who is of God obey hears the words of God.
2. 1 Johannes 2: 4 – As jy sê dat jy God ken, maar gehoorsaam nie wat Hy sê nie, lieg jy en het jy nie die waarheid nie.
3. Psalm 50: 16 – “Watse reg het jy om My Woord te preek?” sê die Here, “Jy wat teregwysing haat en My Woord agter jou rug gooi.”

**THE PRICE OF OBEDIENCE**

1. 1 Johannes 1: 6 – As jy sê jy is God se vriend, maar jy loop steeds in die duisternis, lieg jy en het jy nie die waarheid nie.