

"I sought the Lord, and He answered me; 'Do not withhold good from those to whom it is due, when it is in your power to act.' Do not say to your neighbor, 'Come back tomorrow and I'll give it to you' —when you already have it with you. Do not plot harm against your neighbor, who lives trustfully near you. Do not accuse anyone for no reason—when they have done you no harm. Do not envy the violent or choose any of their ways. For the Lord detests the perverse but takes the upright into his confidence. The Lord's curse is on the house of the wicked, but he blesses the home of the righteous. He mocks proud mockers but shows favor to the humble and oppressed. The wise inherit honor, but fools get only shame."

Proverbs 3:27-35

Ever since I was very young, my grandpa would always tell me, "A young man (or woman) should have a strong understanding of the Proverbs. It'll help you grow up learning the right lessons."

Throughout my life, I've leaned on some of the central themes found here: be slow to speak, listen intently, be content with and celebrate righteousness, wisdom and Godliness cannot be separated, treat others fairly and truthfully.

This Proverb encourages us that righteousness and good deeds never go unseen. Verses 27-28 remind us to never put off the good we see we can do. Often, I fall into the trap of viewing myself in light of the good things I want to do instead of the good things I actually do. This Proverb serves as a reminder to never put off the good works we see need getting done.

How often do you pass up on the good deeds you see need doing? What do you learn about wisdom from this Proverb? What do you learn about foolishness from this Proverb?

PRAYER

God, you are good, and I love you. Father, help me to live wisely, dwelling on goodness and shunning what is evil. Allow me to see others in need, and give me the strength to help them. Lord, show me the neighbor near me who needs to be shown your love. Lord, bless my home as I righteously serve you. Lord, let there always be less of me and more of you. This is my humble prayer in the name of Jesus; Amen.

Written by: Coleman Bevill