

Proverbs

A Good Man

Introduction

Responsibility is at the heart of masculinity. From it flows initiative, sacrifice, and authority which are simply expressions of godly masculinity.

Discussion Questions

- When men abuse their authority, it is a painful injustice for all [29:2]. How have you seen the groaning of abusive men? What makes you groan the most in regards to these situations?
- Abandoning our responsibility to help others when we are able is also a tragedy [3:27, 25:14]. How have you benefitted from the willingness of others to help? In what ways are you able to serve others with what God has given you?
- Seeking to cultivate change and growth requires hard work. In addition, a lack of initiative doesn't maintain a situation, but deteriorates it [14:4, 18:9]. What areas are you most driven to cultivate in your life and in your city? What areas are you most reluctant?
- Social justice and a concern for the helpless is at the heart of God's character. He calls us to have the same heart [24:10-12]. Where do you see injustice regularly? How can the helpless be helped? What is needed?
- Wisdom is meant to be passed on [15:7]. One is meant to instruct others and help them with the insights they have learned. What areas of life do you wish you had more instruction or wisdom? Who are people you could benefit from learning from? Is there anyone you could help?

Think About It

There are essentially two types of men. They either follow in the footsteps of Adam or of Jesus. One abandons or abuses his responsibility, the other embraces and uses it for the sake of others.

What Will You Do?

Look to Jesus who took responsibility for you. Put your faith in his sacrifice, submit to his authority, and work out your salvation as he cultivates godliness and virtue in your life.

Renewing Your Mind

Many a man proclaims his own steadfast love, but a faithful man who can find? [Proverbs 20:6]

Like clouds and wind without rain is a man who boasts of a gift he does not give. [Proverbs 25:14]

Whoever brings blessing will be enriched, and one who waters will himself be watered. [Proverbs 11:25]

To do righteousness and justice is more acceptable to the LORD than sacrifice. [Proverbs 21:3]

When justice is done, it is a joy to the righteous but terror to evildoers. [Proverbs 21:15]

When the righteous increase, the people rejoice, but when the wicked rule, the people groan. [Proverbs 29:2]

Open your mouth for the mute, for the rights of all who are destitute. Open your mouth, judge righteously, defend the rights of the poor and needy. [Proverbs 30:8-9]

The lips of the wise spread knowledge; not so the hearts of fools. [Proverbs 15:7]

Prayer Requests

The sacrifice of the wicked is an abomination to the LORD, but the prayer of the upright is acceptable to him. [Proverbs 15:8]

The LORD is far from the wicked, but he hears the prayer of the righteous. [Proverbs 15:29]

If one turns away his ear from hearing the law, even his prayer is an abomination [Proverbs 28:9]

