

PEARLS OF WISDOM SELECT PROVERBS



"The tongue has the power of life and death, and those who love it will eat its fruit" (Proverbs 18:21).

1) Learn the Fine Art of Constructive Silence (Proverbs 10:19).

"Sin is not ended by multiplying words, but the prudent hold their tongues." ¹

- Verbal forthcomingness is fitting and an act of love ²

- But multiplying words is risky and may become dangerous ³

2) Make Your Home a Refuge – not a Battleground (Proverbs 21:9).

"Better to live on a corner of the roof than share a house with a quarrelsome wife." ⁴

- This timeless wisdom is applicable to both wives and husbands

- Are you a quarrelsome person? ⁵

- Be a peacemaker not a peace-breaker ⁶

- Exchange the battleground for a garden of spiritual fruit ⁷

3) Overcome Insensitivity with Compassionate Timing (Proverbs 25:20).

"Like one who takes away a garment on a cold day, or like vinegar poured on a wound, is one who sings songs to a heavy heart." ⁸

- Don't be like a Babylonian tormenter ⁹

- Do be like the Lord Jesus Christ ¹⁰

¹ All Bible quotations are from the NIV© by Biblica Inc. with permission.

² **Ecclesiastes 3:7; Proverbs 16:24; 10:21; 25:11; 15:23**

³ **Proverbs 29:20; 15:18; James 1:19**

⁴ **Proverbs 21:9** is virtually identical to **Proverbs 25:14** and similar to **Proverbs 17:1; 19:13b; 20:3; 21:19** and **27:15-16**.

⁵ **Psalm 139:23-24** "Search me, God, and know my heart; test me and know my anxious thoughts. ²⁴ See if there is any offensive way in me and lead me in the way everlasting."

⁶ **Matthew 5:9** "Blessed are the peacemakers, for they will be called children of God."

⁷ **Ephesians 4:30-32** "And do not grieve the Holy Spirit of God, with whom you were sealed for the day of redemption. ³¹ Get rid of all bitterness, rage and anger, brawling and slander, along with every form of malice.

³² Be kind and compassionate to one another, forgiving each other, just as in Christ God forgave you.

⁸ Other Proverbs on (mis)reading emotional or social cues: **15:1; 15:23; 18:13; 25:11; 26:18-19; 27:14**.

⁹ **Psalm 137:1-4**

¹⁰ **John 11:1-44**