



# **Virtues and Vices**



MEMORY VERSE: "Never let loyalty and kindness leave you! Tie them around your neck as a reminder. Write them deep within your heart." Proverbs 3:3

Through our faith and the power of the Holy Spirit inside us we are to strive for virtue (moral excellence) and avoid vices (immoral behaviors). Virtue is making decisions based on your desire to live a life pleasing to God and follow His Word.

DAY 1 PROVERBS — Virtues - Honesty, Patience, Kindness and Loyalty

- 1. What do these Proverbs say about honesty? v. 11:5
  - v. 12:22

Why is honesty so important in our relationship with God? With others?

- 2. Read Proverbs 16:32a. Why is having patience essential to our lives?
- What do these verses say about kindness and loyalty?
  v. 11:17
  - v. 3:3

Does your life reveal that you are kind and loyal? Explain.

DAY 2

- 4. What do these verses say about being generous? v. 11:25
  - v. 19:17

Why do you think being generous is important to God?

5. What do these Proverbs say about self-control? v. 16:32b

v. 13:16

6. Read Proverbs 15:30 and 17:22. How does a positive attitude affect everything you do?



- 7. What are your take aways from these verses on anger and jealousy? vv. 27:4 and 14:29-30
- 8. What do these Proverbs say? v. 6:32
  - v. 18:12
  - v. 15:27
  - v. 6:27

9. What do you learn about fools from Proverbs 26:11 and 19:3?



- 10. What insight do these Scriptures give you? 1 Corinthians 10:13
  - 1 Peter 5:8
- 11. What does Proverbs 21:21 tell you will bring the greatest peace and pleasure in your life?



PROVERBS - Virtues and Vices - Wrap Up

- 12. Virtues are more than just doing the right thing when it is convenient. How do you see virtues feeding off one another?
- 13. Proverbs shares only 16 virtues but lists 40 vices! Why do you think that is?

# TAKE AWAY

When you are stuck waiting in a line or in a crowd, whisper a prayer for those around you. When impatience sneaks up on you, put this into action.

# BLESSING

"Whoever pursues righteousness and unfailing love will find life, righteousness, and honor." Proverbs 21:21





# **Virtues and Vices**

#### Virtues: Honesty

11:5 The godly are directed by honesty; the wicked fall beneath their load of sin.12:22 The Lord detests lying lips, but he delights in those who tell the truth.

## Patience

16:32a Better to be patient than powerful.

# Kindness

11:17 Your kindness will reward you, but your cruelty will destroy you.

3:3 Never let loyalty and kindness leave you! Tie them around your neck as a reminder. Write them deep within your heart.

#### Generous

11:25 The generous will prosper; those who refresh others will themselves be refreshed.19:17 If you help the poor, you are lending to the Lord—and He will repay you!

### Self Control

16:32b Better to have self-control than to conquer a city.

13:16 Wise people think before they act; fools don't—and even brag about their foolishness.

### Positive attitude

15:30 A cheerful look brings joy to the heart; good news makes for good health.

17:22 A cheerful heart is good medicine, but a broken spirit saps a person's strength.

### Vices:

### Anger and Jealousy

27:4 Anger is cruel, and wrath is like a flood, but jealousy is even more dangerous.14:29-30 People with understanding control their anger; a hot temper shows great foolishness. A peaceful heart leads to a healthy body; jealousy is like cancer in the bones.

#### Lust

6:32 But the man who commits adultery is an utter fool, for he destroys himself.

#### Haughtiness

18:12 Haughtiness (arrogantly superior and condescending) goes before destruction.

#### Greed

15:27 Greed brings grief to the whole family, but those who hate bribes will live.

## Addiction

6:27 Can a man scoop a flame into his lap and not have his clothes catch on fire? Fools

26:11 As a dog returns to its vomit, so a fool repeats his foolishness.

19:3 People ruin their lives by their own foolishness and then are angry at the Lord.

1 Corinthians 10:13 The temptations in your life are no different from what others experience. And God is faithful. He will not allow the temptation to be more than you can stand. When you are tempted, He will show you a way out so that you can endure.

1 Peter 5:8 Stay alert! Watch out for your great enemy, the devil.

He prowls around like a roaring lion, looking for someone to devour.

Proverbs 21:21 Whoever pursues righteousness and unfailing love will find life, righteousness, and honor.

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**Wisdom:** God-given understanding, ability to distinguish between right and wrong, insight, discernment. The ability to look at life from God's point of view and then choosing to live it out through the power of the Holy Spirit.

**Fear of the Lord:** profound reverence and awe toward God; respect for God's character, words, actions and position that leads to love and obedience; true honor, devotion and surrender to God.

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