

# Abide in Me

**John 15:4**  
*Bible studies for disciples  
who make disciples*



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The Week of February 12, 2023

*Get Wisdom*  
**If These Walls Could Speak**  
Proverbs 24:3-4

*“By wisdom a house is built, and by understanding it is established;  
by knowledge the rooms are filled with all precious and pleasant riches.”*

The family is God’s idea. It is His masterpiece. A masterpiece tells us something of its creator. Just as we can learn something about Michelangelo by surveying the ceiling of the Sistine Chapel or listening to Beethoven’s Fifth Symphony, we can learn something about our Creator by looking at the family. The inspired insight of the book of Proverbs leads us to better understand our God who dwells in the beauty, wonder, and rhythm of relationships—within the Trinity itself and with us. As we look at a variety of proverbs depicting a well-built home, we will see the value of wisdom and its fruit.

***Warm-up***

*Group members are encouraged to respond to one of the following questions:*

- Can you describe one of your favorite family photos? Why is it your favorite?
- Why do you think God created families?

**HEARING THE WORD**

Let’s begin by reading aloud a selection of Proverbs about the home, marriage and parenting:

- Proverbs 3:33: “The Lord’s curse is on the house of the wicked, but he blesses the dwelling of the righteous.”
- Proverbs 12:4: “An excellent wife is the crown of her husband, but she who brings shame is like rotteness in his bones.”
- Proverbs 14:1: “The wise woman builds her house, but the foolish tears it down with her own hands.”
- Proverbs 15:16-17: “Better is a little with the fear of the Lord than great treasure and trouble with it.  
<sup>17</sup> Better is a dinner of herbs where love is than a fattened ox and hatred with it.”
- Proverbs 18:22: “He who finds a good wife finds a good thing and obtains favor from the Lord.”

- Proverbs 27:8: “Like a bird that strays from its nest is a man who strays from his home.”
- Proverbs 31:10-11: “An excellent wife who can find? She is far more precious than jewels. <sup>11</sup> The heart of her husband trusts in her, and he will have no lack of gain.”
- Proverbs 31:28: “Her children rise up and call her blessed; her husband also, and he praises her:
- Proverbs 1:8: “Hear, my son, your father's instruction, and forsake not your mother's teaching.”
- Proverbs 3:11-12: “My son, do not despise the Lord's discipline or be weary of his reproof, <sup>12</sup> for the Lord reproves him whom he loves, as a father the son in whom he delights.”
- Proverbs 4:10-13:  
<sup>10</sup> “Hear, my son, and accept my words,  
that the years of your life may be many.  
<sup>11</sup> I have taught you the way of wisdom;  
I have led you in the paths of uprightness.  
<sup>12</sup> When you walk, your step will not be hampered,  
and if you run, you will not stumble.  
<sup>13</sup> Keep hold of instruction; do not let go;  
guard her, for she is your life.”
- Proverbs 19:20 says, “Listen to counsel and accept discipline, that you may be wise the rest of your days.”
- Proverbs 22:6: “Train up a child in the way he should go; even when he is old he will not depart from it.”

### GOING DEEPER THROUGH DISCUSSION

1. What kind of wisdom does Proverbs provide in seeking a spouse? What should we look for in a spouse?
2. According to some of the proverbs above, what is the purpose and design for marriage?
3. What is the difference between seeing marriage as a covenant or a means to personal fulfillment?



