**Living Wisely – Pr.30**

**Agur son of Jakeh – was a collector of proverbs & wise sayings**

Agur = gathered - Jakeh = pious

Agur the son of a wise father collected wise sayings for living

**Focal Truth: Wise thoughts produce wise living**

**Observations**

1. A wise confession – 30:2 – 4

* I am more stupid than any man
* I do not have understanding of a man
* I have no wisdom
* I do not have the knowledge of the Holy One

Paul said, I am the chief of sinners – 1 Tim. 1:15

Abraham said, I am dust and ashes – Gen. 18:27

David said, I was like a beast before You – Ps.73:22

“The more grace a person has of it, with his remaining corruption, the less does his goodness and holiness appear in proportion to his sinfulness” – Jonathan Edwards

“The closer our communion with God the greater will be our self – abasement” – Charles Bridges

**Genuine humility is the way to God’s wisdom – 4**

* *Who has ascended into heaven and descended?*
* *Who has the wind in his fists?*
* *Who has wrapped the waters in His garment?*
* *Who has established all the ends of the earth?*
* *What is His name or His son’s name? Surely you know?*

**Rom. 11:33 – *oh, the depths of the riches both of the wisdom and knowledge of God! How unsearchable are His judgments and unfathomable His ways!***

**Ps. *92:5 – how great are your works, O Lord how deep are Your thoughts!***

1. A wise confidence – 30:5 - 6

**God’s word is tested** – Ps. 12:6 – *the words of the Lord are pure words…*

Ps. 18:30 – *as for God his way is perfect. The word of the Lord is tried; he is a buckler to all those that trust in him*

**God is a shield of protection to those who take refuge in Him**

Ps 3:3 – *you O Lord are a shield about me, my glory and the One who lifts my head*

Ps 84:11 – *For the Lord God is a sun and shield, the Lord gives grace and glory, no good thing does He withhold from those who walk uprightly*

**God’s word is complete** – Rev. 22:19 – I testify to everyone who hears the words of the prophecy of this book, if anyone adds to them, God will add to him the plagues which are written in this book

1. A wise request – 30:7 -9

* Keep deception & lies from me
* Don’t give me poverty or riches
* Provide me with the food that I need it will protect me from:

Forgetting you

Denying you

Stealing from others

Dishonoring the name of God – Ex20:7 – *you shall not take the name of the Lord you God in vain…*

1. A wise silence – 30:10 – 14

* Don’t slander anyone
* Do not curse your father
* Do not be self -righteous
* Do not be proud
* Do not speak words of fighting & hurt

1. Some wise observations – 30:15 – 33
2. **Discontentment & dissatisfaction – 15 - 16**

The world is filled with examples of taking but not giving

The world is filled with examples of never having enough

**The wise always asks: How much is enough?**

1. **Disrespect – 17**

Ex. 20:12 – *honor your father and mother, that your days may be prolonged in the land which the Lord your God gives you*

**God will judge those who dishonor their parents**

1. **Wonders – 18 – 20**

*There are three things that amaze me- no four things I don’t understand; how an eagle glides through the sky, how a snake slithers on a rock, how a ship navigates the ocean, how a man loves a woman – NLT*

*An adulterous woman consumes a man, then wipes her mouth and says, what is wrong with that? – NLT*

1. **Unreliable things – 21 – 24**

* A slave king
* A fool satisfied by food
* A bitter woman who finally gets a husband
* A servant girl who betrays her mistress

1. **Wise creatures on the earth – 25 – 28**

*There are four things on earth that are small but unusually wise: ants – they aren’t strong but they store up their food all summer. Badgers- they aren’t powerful, but they make their homes among the rocks, Locusts- they have no king but they march in formation. Lizards- they are easy to catch, but they are found even in kings palaces NLT*

1. **Majestic things – 29 – 31**

*There are three things that walk with stately stride- no four that strut about:* ***the lion*** *king of animals, who won’t turn aside for anything,* ***the strutting rooster, the male goat****,* ***a king*** *as he leads his army – NLT*

1. **Shame & picking fights– 32 – 33**

*As the beating of cream yields butter and the striking the nose causes bleeding, so stirring up anger causes quarrels –* NLT

*As milk under pressure produces butter, and a nose under pressure produces blood, so patience under pressure produces strife –* Aramaic

James 3:13 – *who among you is wise and understanding? Let him show by his good behavior his deeds in the gentleness of wisdom.*

***To the praise of the glory of His grace! The Lord is near to the door! Come Lord Jesus!***