

PROVERBS 17

OBSERVATION

Read Proverbs 17.

Do you see any repeated patterns in these proverbs?

One pattern is used more than the others. Why do you think the author uses this pattern so much?

Do you see any groups or organization of proverbs within this chapter?

Is there a theme you can discern in this chapter? (Don't force it if you don't see one!)

INTERPRETATION

What is v. 1 actually saying? Why the imagery of a dry morsel and quietness? Is it a positive image?

What is the point of v. 2? How would you translate this proverb into a modern setting?

What does v. 4 teach us about the act of listening?

Verses 6 and 25 both talk about children. What do these verses teach you about children in general?

Verse 8 presents some problems. There's something not quite right. How do you deal with/explain it?

Taken by itself, v. 9 can be horribly misconstrued to mean something it doesn't. Retell the proverb in your own words (correctly).

Verses 15 and 26 describe a problem. What is it, and what does God think about it?

What is v. 24 saying?

EVALUATION (vv. 27–28)

What virtue is this passage commending?

Can you find this elsewhere in Proverbs? In Scripture?

APPLICATION (vv. 27–28)

What sin should you confess and repent of in view of this passage?

What affirmations should you make in light of this Word—affirmations about God, Christ, myself, others, and the world?

What should you thank God for in light of this passage?

What changes should you make in your investment of time, money, energy, or personal resources in view of the truth of this passage?

What prayer should you pray for yourself or your family or your friends or your enemies in light of what you have seen in the Word?