

Resurrection Weekend Message

“Life Hacks” – Proverbs 1:1-7

April 8-9, 2023

Life Hacks		
A Study of Divine, Practical Wisdom from the Book of Proverbs		
Date	Message Title	Bible Text
April 8-9	Life Hacks	Proverbs 1:1-7
April 16	Life Hacks for Your Relationships	Proverbs 9:8-9; 15:5; 16:27-30
April 23	Life Hacks for Your Marriage	Proverbs 11:14; 12:4; 15:17
April 30	Life Hacks for Your Money	Proverbs 3:9-10; 13:11; 14:23; 22:7
May 7	Life Hacks for Your Pride	Proverbs 11:2; 16:18
May 14	Life Hacks for Moms	Proverbs 31:10-31
May 21	Life Hacks for Your Walk with God	Proverbs 1:7; 3:5-6
May 28	Life Hacks for Your Sex Life	Proverbs 5:1-23
June 4	Life Hacks for Your Food Life	Proverbs 23:20-21; 25:16; 28:7
June 11	Life Hacks for Your Work Life	Proverbs 6:6-8; 13:4; 12:24; 21:5
June 18	Life Hacks for Dads	Proverbs 13:24; 19:18; 22:6; 29:17
June 25	Life Hacks for Your Words	Proverbs 12:18; 15:1,4; 18:21

Making Life Hacks Work for You (Proverbs 1:1-7)

1. One of the greatest humans to learn life hacks from is _____ (v.1)

- The human author of Proverbs is King Solomon, the son of David.
- **The positive about Solomon:** When Solomon became king, God appeared to him and invited him to ask for anything (1 Kings 3:5). Solomon asked for wisdom (1 Kings 3:6-15).
- **1 Kings 4:29-32** – *And God gave Solomon wisdom and understanding beyond measure, and breadth of mind like the sand on the seashore, so that Solomon’s wisdom surpassed the wisdom of all the people.... He also spoke 3000 proverbs, and his songs were 1005.*
- **The negative about Solomon:** In his later years, Solomon did not follow his own proverbs. He ended up valuing women more than his relationship with God amassing 700 wives and 300 concubines who turned his heart away from the Lord. Solomon started worshipping false gods (1 Kings 11:1-8).
- **Application #1** – As we study the book of Proverbs together, I am making a choice to learn from both the positive and negative of Solomon’s life. I declare upfront that this will not just become head knowledge for me. I confess that knowledge by itself puffs up (1 Corinthians 8:1). But, with God’s help and power, I choose true wisdom by applying these proverbs to my life and by acting on them in obedience to God and His ways.

- **Sidenote:** King Solomon wrote the majority of Proverbs (1:1-9:18; 10:1-22:16; 25:1-29:27). The proverbs in 25:1-29:27 were selected from Solomon’s collection by King Hezekiah’s committee (25:1). Chapter 30 was written by Agur; Chapter 31 was written by Lemuel.

2. The best book to learn life hacks from is _____ (vv.2-6)

- Verses 2-6 tell us the purpose of the Proverbs – namely, to point the reader toward wisdom in all its various aspects:
 - **Intellectual wisdom:** knowing, understanding (v.2)
 - **Ethical wisdom:** wise dealing, righteousness, justice, equity (v.3)
 - **Practical wisdom:** prudence, knowledge, discretion (v.4)
 - **The Rewards of wisdom:** learning, guidance, understanding (vv.5-6)
- In Proverbs, the words *wise* and *wisdom* are used at least 125 times.
- **Application #2** – I’m going to tap into this library of wisdom by learning and applying Proverbs such as...
 - ☐ **Proverbs 14:4** – *Where there are no oxen, the manger is clean, but abundant crops come by the strength of the ox.*
 - ☐ **Proverbs 15:1** – *A soft answer turns away wrath, but a harsh word stirs up anger.*
 - ☐ **Proverbs 16:18** – *Pride goes before destruction, and a haughty spirit before a fall.*
 - ☐ **Proverbs 16:31** – *Gray hair is a crown of glory; it is gained in a righteous life.*
 - ☐ **Proverbs 17:1** (NLT) – *Better a dry crust eaten in peace than a house filled with feasting – and conflict.*
 - ☐ **Proverbs 17:22** – *A joyful heart is good medicine, but a crushed spirit dries up the bones.*
 - ☐ **Proverbs 18:2** – *A fool takes no pleasure in understanding, but only in expressing his opinions.*
 - ☐ **Proverbs 18:10** – *The name of the Lord is a strong tower; the righteous man runs into it and is safe.*
 - ☐ **Proverbs 27:5-6** – *Better is open rebuke than hidden love. Faithful are the wounds of a friend; profuse are the kisses of an enemy.*
 - ☐ **Proverbs 27:17** (NLT) – *As iron sharpens iron, so a friend sharpens a friend.*
 - ☐ **Proverbs 28:19** (NLT) – *A hard worker has plenty of food, but a person who chases fantasies ends up in poverty.*

3. The secret sauce of life hacks is _____ (v.7)

- According to the Bible, the way to get true wisdom is through the fear of the Lord. What is “the fear of the Lord”?
- The fear of the Lord is _____.
- Daniel Akin: “Solomon says that all wisdom is spiritual in nature because it’s only through a relationship with the Lord that one can be wise. The fear of – the reverence for – Yahweh is the beginning of wisdom. Fools despise wisdom and discipline, but the wise

person is the one who fears, trusts, and reverences Yahweh. This is the first step and the essential component in gaining wisdom – the fear of the Lord. The everyday decisions that we make are to be done in the fear of the Lord, and the everyday decisions we make reveal whether or not we fear the Lord. God is concerned with your whole life. How you eat dinner, how you finish tasks assigned to you, how you spend money, how you parent your kids, and how you respond to your parents are all before the Lord. Every nook and cranny of your life is to be governed by God.”

- **Psalm 25:14** – *The friendship of the Lord is for those who fear Him.*
- **1 Corinthians 1:30** – *Jesus Christ became to us wisdom from God, righteousness and sanctification and redemption.*
- **Matthew 12:42** – *Someone greater than Solomon is here.*
- **Colossians 2:3** – *In Christ are hidden all the treasures of wisdom and knowledge.*
- John Piper: “Jesus is the foundation of all true wisdom. We would not have any wisdom without Him. Proverbs would hang useless in our mouths without Jesus. We would have an appearance of wisdom but be of no eternal use to anyone. But since Jesus secured God’s wisdom for us, we can be truly wise. And that would mean glorifying God in all we do. For that is why Jesus came.”
- Jonathan Akin: “What if wisdom wasn’t a concept or an idea or a set of ideas you had to learn at all? What if Wisdom was a Person you could know and have a relationship with? What if Wisdom was a Person you could love and walk with, and just by knowing, loving, and walking with this Person it would actually make you wise? What if Wisdom was a Person who spoke to you, and by listening to Wisdom’s voice you could actually grow in wisdom? Proverbs will teach us that Wisdom is a Person – Jesus Christ of Nazareth. Through a relationship with Him you can be reconciled to God, to others, and to the world around you. Through a relationship with Him, He will begin to produce in you the wisdom He lives out – the wisdom of Proverbs!”
- This makes Proverbs 1:1 fascinating: “son of David, king of Israel”
- Fun Bible study on “Son of David”: Matthew 1:1; 9:27; 15:22; 20:30; 21:9; Luke 1:30-33
- Application #3 – The #1 way to get wisdom is to invite Jesus Christ, son of David, King of Israel into your life!! Which starts with believing in His death and resurrection (Romans 10:9).

Jesus, You are Wisdom, and I receive You into my life. Thank You, Jesus, for dying on the cross in my place for my sins. Thank You for rising from the dead defeating sin, death, and the devil. I receive You into my life. I receive Your forgiveness of my sins. I receive Your free gift of eternal life. And I receive the gift of Your Spirit who will guide me into all wisdom and truth.

- Application #4 – In order to walk in wisdom, I choose to grow in knowing, loving, and walking with Jesus Christ in whom are hidden all of the treasures of wisdom and knowledge (Col. 2:3) by...
 - Spending time daily with Him in His Word and in prayer throughout my day, asking for wisdom and guidance on little decisions and big decisions.
 - Building intentional spiritual friendships as one way to walk with Christ through fellowship with the Body of Christ and thus receive the wisdom of godly counsel. Specifically, I am going to seek to find a group to be a part of here at Grace Fellowship: WhatIsGrace.org/spiritualformation
 - Walking with Christ by joining Him in mission by going on a cross-cultural mission trip this summer. More info at WhatIsGrace.org/mission-trips
 - Coming all 12 Sundays to our “Life Hacks” study of the Book of Proverbs (and joining online if I have to be out of town).