

Bulletin Title: Park in Proverbs

She got up in the morning and instantly reached for her phone. When she double tapped the screen, she saw a motivational quote another sister in Christ had recently shared with her. It made her feel good and got her moving. Next, she logged into Facebook and Instagram. She read a number of inspirational thoughts and catchy statements. Sure, she spent about an hour scrolling, but she felt encouraged because of the great quotes that were being shared. As she got ready for the rest of the day, to make every moment count, she started listening to a Podcast. It was from someone she really respected. They always had the right words to say to encourage and inspire her. Sometimes she would listen to the Podcast a few times to be sure she remembered the wise thoughts being shared. She did her best to write them down and memorize them! As she got ready to go to Wal-mart she put on her Nike running shoes. She quietly said to herself, "Just Do It." The shirt she wore had an inspirational thought on it that said, "Hustle now, sleep later." At Wal-Mart, she wanted to get the perfect birthday card for a friend. It needed to have some great words of wisdom in it.

Throughout the day, this woman certainly heard a lot of encouraging, inspirational, and wise sayings. While she was always looking to grow and to be wise, she failed that day and other days to consider the book of Proverbs. While she would park the car at the park to read the latest New York Times bestselling book, she rarely parked in the book of Proverbs. While she played books from Audible.com while driving and working out, she rarely took time to listen to the book of Proverbs. Can you relate to this scenario? It can be easy to ignore the book of Proverbs. We would be wise not to! We would be wise to park and sit in this book for a long time! When God appeared to King Solomon in a dream, He said, *"Ask what you wish me to give you."* Solomon asked for an understanding heart so that he could lead the nation of Israel, 1 Kings 3. In response to that prayer, *"God gave Solomon wisdom and very great discernment and breadth of mind, like the sand that is on the seashore. Solomon's wisdom surpassed the wisdom of all the sons of the east and all the wisdom of Egypt. For he was wiser than all men...He also spoke 3,000 proverbs", 1 Kings 4:29-32. In verse 34,* it says, *"Men came from all peoples to hear the wisdom of Solomon, from all the kings of the earth who had heard of his wisdom."* Are we taking time to listen to the wisdom of Solomon? What if parked in the book of Proverbs more and listened to it?

- Benjamin Lee