

Fool-Proofing Life

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Pro 26:4 Answer not a fool according to his folly, lest you be like him yourself.

Pro 26:5 Answer a fool according to his folly, lest he be wise in his own eyes.

SUMMARY:

Call a man a “fool” and you might find yourself in a fight. For good reason, Jesus in Matthew 5:22 give a stern warning against saying to someone “you fool!” The book of Proverbs has more verses on fools than any other book in the Bible. Proverbs 26 uses the word “fool” more times than any other chapter in the Bible. The hard truth that we must face though is that when a man begins to realize the characteristics of a fool, we quickly realize that all of us have been one and tragically we will probably be one again. We may not on this side of heaven be able to completely decimate foolishness in our lives, but there are some actions that we can make habits that can certainly reduce our foolishness.

NOTES:

5 Marks of a Fool

1. A heart that says “there is no God” (Psalm 14:1)
2. Running your mouth (babbling, slander, lying, gossip)
3. Doing wrong and defining it as fun
4. Repeating the same foolish actions
5. Being filled with pride

5 Marks of a Wise Man

1. Beginning wisdom with reverence for God
2. Listening
3. Pursuing wisdom as pleasure
4. Receiving correction
5. Habitual walking in wisdom

DISCUSSION POINTS:

Introductory Question: What wisdom did your father or a wise older man impart to you? What have you done with that wisdom?

Discussion:

- What is the biggest “fool trap” for you?
- What one thing do you want to do this week to “fool-proof” your life.
- What are some practical things you are acting on right now to pursue wisdom?

APPLICATION:

Identify one way in your life that you have been foolish. Do one thing to move you toward correcting your foolishness. Give yourself 48 hours – til Friday at 1pm to take action.

ON YOUR OWN...

Isaiah 32:6
Ecclesiastes 10:2
1 Corinthians 3:18

Next week we will be serving lunch. Invite a friend to join you. Check out KokomoHUDDLE.org for previous weeks.