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Swordsman Teen Newsletter



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Book of Proverbs ~ Circle the right answer:

- 1) Who was the main author of the book of Proverbs?
A - David
B - Solomon
C - Saul
D - Hezekiah
- 2) The horse *is* prepared against the day of battle:
A - And the righteous man takes it to heart.
B - But the slothful man remains in his bed.
C - And by the fear of the LORD a man avoids evil.
D - But safety is of the LORD.
- 3) The eye that mocks a father and that scorns a mother:
A - Will be pecked out by the ravens in the valley.
B - Are the eyes of a fool on the ends of the earth.
C - Invites a flogging.
D - Is disturbing to the righteous in his way.
- 4) As a jewel of gold in a swine's snout,
A - so is a fair woman which is without discretion.
B - Is a wicked man in a king's court.
C - Is a wealthy man in the company of fools.
D - Is a righteous man among sinners.
- 5) A soft answer turneth away wrath:
A - But the mouth of the wicked pours out evil.
B - But grievous words stir up anger.
C - But he who heeds admonition gains understanding.
D - But the mouths of fools feed on folly.
- 6) Wealth gotten by vanity shall be diminished:
A - But a poor man's field may produce abundance.
B - But he that gathereth by labour shall increase.
C - That one may avoid the snares of death.
D - And the way of the faithless is their ruin.
- 7) As vinegar to the teeth and smoke to the eyes:
A - So is the fool in the company of the wise.
B - So is the sluggard to them that send him.
C - So is a proverb in the mouth of a fool.
D - So is a sluggard to those who send him.
- 8) He that oppresseth the poor reproacheth his Maker:
A - But he that honoureth him hath mercy on the poor.
B - Will suffer on the day of judgment.
C - Perverts the way of justice.
D - Will suffer poverty himself.
- 9) Pride goeth before destruction:
A - A haughty spirit before destruction.
B - And a fool's mouth is his ruin.
C - A haughty spirit before a fall.
D - But humility goes before honor.
- 10) Every way of a man is right in his own eyes:
A - And by seeking them he will prosper.
B - But the LORD pondereth the hearts.
C - But in the end he will not be blessed.
D - But how can a man understand his way?
- 11) A righteous man regardeth the life of his beast:
A - But the companion of fools will suffer harm.
B - But a poor man has no means of redemption.
C - But the tender mercies of the wicked are cruel.
D - But the desire of the treacherous is for money.
- 12) Cast out the scorner:
A - For the righteous he will corrupt.
B - For his tongue is a poison.
C - And contention shall go out.
D - And the city will praise you.
- 13) He that keepeth his mouth, keepeth his:
A - honor.
B - life.
C - wisdom.
D - courage.
- 14) How many pillars had the house that wisdom built?
A - 2
B - 7
C - 12
D - 40
- 15) A fool hath no delight in:
A - Foolishness.
B - Understanding.
C - Riches.
D - Life.
- 16) According to Proverbs, what makes many friends?
A - Wisdom
B - Wealth
C - Knowledge
D - The mouth
- 17) According to Proverbs, what separates close friends?
A - Wealth
B - A gossip
C - Laziness
D - Evil deeds
- 18) What is to be chosen rather than great riches?
A - Poverty
B - A good name
C - A seat at the gate
D - Salamanders
- 19) According to Proverbs, what do you promote when you cover an offense?
A - Repeat offenders
B - Folly
C - Love
D - Wisdom
- 20) Do not wear yourself out to:
A - Find wisdom.
B - Get rich.
C - Seek a friend.
D - Convince the ruler.

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All Scripture in this publication is from the King James Bible.

For the word of God is quick, and powerful, and sharper than any twoedged sword, piercing even to the dividing asunder of soul and spirit, and of the joints and marrow, and is a discerner of the thoughts and intents of the heart. Hebrews 4:12

2024

JANUARY

Walking the Right Pathway in 2024.

Which road will you take this year?

The Path Jesus would take or the path Satan would have you take?



Psalms 16:11 Thou wilt shew me the path of life: in thy presence is fulness of joy; at thy right hand there are pleasures for evermore.

Walking the Right Pathway in 2024

Galatians 5:16-25 This I say then, Walk in the Spirit, and ye shall not fulfil the lust of the flesh. **17** For the flesh lusteth against the Spirit, and the Spirit against the flesh: and these are contrary the one to the other: so that ye cannot do the things that ye would. **18** But if ye be led of the Spirit, ye are not under the law. **19** Now the works of the flesh are manifest, which are these; Adultery, fornication, uncleanness, lasciviousness, **20** Idolatry, witchcraft, hatred, variance, emulations, wrath, strife, seditions, heresies, **21** Envyings, murders, drunkenness, revellings, and such like: of the which I tell you before, as I have also told you in time past, that they which do such things shall not inherit the kingdom of God. **22** But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, longsuffering, gentleness, goodness, faith, **23** Meekness, temperance: against such there is no law. **24** And they that are Christ's have crucified the flesh with the affections and lusts. **25** If we live in the Spirit, let us also walk in the Spirit.

Jesus spoke of there being **two possible pathways** through this life. In **Matthew 7:13-14**, He said that there is one pathway that leads unto life and another that leads unto death. Jesus makes it crystal clear that when we enter the narrow way, we are saved by grace **Ephesians 2:8-9** and are headed to Heaven, while all those who remain in the broad way are headed to Hell. Now, as Christians, we can never enter into death, **John 5:24**, but we can find ourselves walking on the wrong pathway. If you believe that becoming a Christian means that you cease to sin, then you have a rude awakening ahead- **1 John 1:8-10**. While we have literally passed from death unto life as the Bible says, a dead ineffective and fruitless spiritual life will always be the result of walking the wrong pathway. On the other hand, to walk in the right pathway is to live a life that is pleasing to the Lord. It is to be fruitful and effective in all that we do for His glory. It is to experience that abundant life of which Jesus spoke, **John 10:10**. These verses that we have read today, tell us all that we need to know about the difference between the two pathways we can choose to walk in life. I am confident that no one wants to be a spiritual failure, therefore, let's look together at these verses today and see the lessons that can be gleaned as we think about Walking the Right Pathway.

The pathway of spiritual disaster is also known as the flesh life. The flesh is opposed to the spirit.

Galatians 5:17 For the flesh lusteth against the Spirit, and the Spirit against the flesh: and these are contrary the one to the other: so that ye cannot do the things that ye would.

There is a warfare going on in your life if you are saved. **Romans 7:15-25** is what the apostle Paul said. To put it another way, the things people do that they ought not to do, they do because they do not do the things they ought to do! The flesh seeks to hinder prayer, Bible study, soul winning, faithfulness, reading your Bible, church attendance, obedience and tithing. The Christian life is not a playground, it is a battlefield!

1 Peter 2:11 Dearly beloved, I beseech you as strangers and pilgrims, abstain from fleshly lusts, which war against the soul;

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[We Never Know When We Are Going to Die.](#)

Roger Simms had just left the military and was anxious to take his uniform off once and for all. He was hitchhiking home, and his heavy duffel bag made the trip even more arduous than hitchhiking normally is. Flashing his thumb to an oncoming car, he had just about given up hope when he saw the taillights flash on a shiny, black, expensive car, so new that it had a temporary license in the back window...hardly the kind of car that would stop for a hitchhiker. But to his amazement, the car stopped and the passenger door opened. He ran toward the car, placed his duffel carefully in the back, and slid into the leather-covered front seat. He was greeted by the friendly smile of a handsome older gentleman with distinguished gray hair and a deep tan. "Hello, son. Are you on leave or are you going home for good?" "I just got out of the army, and I'm going home for the first time in several years," answered Roger. "Well, you're in luck if you're going to Chicago." "Not quite that far," said Roger, "but my home is on the way. Do you live there, mister?" "Hanover. Yes, I have a business there." And with that, they were on their way. After giving each other brief life histories and talking about everything under the sun, Roger (who was a Christian) felt a strong compulsion to witness to Mr. Hanover about Christ.

But witnessing to an older, wealthy businessman who obviously had everything he should ever want was a scary prospect indeed. Roger kept putting it off, but as he neared his destination, he realized that it was now or never.

"Mr. Hanover," began Roger, "I would like to talk to you about something very important." He then proceeded to explain the way of salvation, ultimately asking Mr. Hanover if he would like to receive Christ as his Savior. To Roger's astonishment, the new car pulled over to the side of the road; Roger thought for a moment that Mr. Hanover was about to throw him out. Then a strange and wonderful thing happened: the businessman began to cry while affirming that he did in fact want to accept Christ into his heart. He thanked Roger for talking to him, saying, "This is the greatest thing that has ever happened to me." He then dropped Roger off at his house and traveled on toward Chicago. Five years went by and Roger Simms married, had a child, and started a business of his own. One day, while packing for a business trip to Chicago, he came across a small, gold-embossed business card which Mr. Hanover had given him years earlier. When Roger arrived in Chicago, he looked up Hanover Enterprises, and found it downtown in a very tall and important-looking building. The receptionist told him that it would be impossible to see Mr. Hanover, but that if he was an old friend, he should be able to see Mrs. Hanover. A little disappointed, he was led into a poshly-decorated office where an elegant looking woman was sitting at a huge oak desk. She extended her hand, "You knew my husband?" Roger explained how Mr. Hanover had been kind enough to give him a ride back home. A look of interest passed across her face. "Can you tell what date that was?" "Sure," said Roger, "It was May 7th, five years ago, the day I was discharged from the army." "And did anything special happen on your ride...anything unusual?" Roger hesitated. Should he mention giving his witness? Had it been a source of contention between the two, which resulted in a marital breakup or separation? But once again, he felt the prompting of the Lord to be truthful. "Mrs. Hanover, your

husband accepted the Lord into his heart that day. I explained the gospel message to him, and he pulled to the side of the road and wept, and then he prayed a prayer for salvation." Suddenly she began to sob uncontrollably. After several minutes, she regained enough control to explain what had happened: "I grew up in a Christian home, but my husband did not. I had prayed for my husband's salvation for many years, and I believed God would save him. But just after he let you out of his car, on May 7th, he passed away in a horrible head-on collision. He never arrived home. I thought God had not kept His promise, and I stopped living for the Lord five years ago because I blamed Him for not keeping His Word."

She accused God of not keeping His promises -- of not being faithful. Yet, in the end, who proved His faithfulness and who didn't? **2 Timothy 2:13** *If we believe not, yet he abideth faithful: he cannot deny himself.* He does not deviate from His faithfulness; He can't. Faithfulness is a very real part of who and what He is! The truth is, Mrs. Hanover quit, God didn't! **Exodus 34:6** *And the LORD passed by before him, and proclaimed, The LORD, The LORD God, merciful and gracious, longsuffering, and abundant in goodness and truth,*

[This is kind of cute](#)

This is kind of cute: One Sunday when a faithful Christian had no sermon to attend he took his father's advice to do something that he had never ever done before. He went bear hunting as his father suggested. Believe it or not, the first time he goes bear hunting ever he sees a bear who grows rather suspicious of him. The bear advances toward the Christian man and the man gets shaken from this and he runs away from the bear (not a good idea!) He tries to climb up a near-by tree but fails and loses his balance completely! The man his numbed in fear but he still tries to pretend like he's dead. But the bear knows better and he gets up on his hind legs and he makes himself big. The bear is ready to attack the man. Just as the man thinks that he is surely going to die he prays to God in his head and he says: "Please God don't let me die! Not now! Not today!" He prays to God and says: "please God I wish for you to transform this bear into a Christian!" The man looks up and he is relieved as the bear kneels down to the ground, puts his paws together and says: "Dear God thank-you for this food that I am about to receive!"

The End

[Life is like a stormy sea](#)

Life is like a stormy sea
That tosses to and fro,
But God's Word will ever be
A ballast for my soul.
By its truth I'll be held fast
Till I reach heaven's shore
Where I will be home at last
And sail life's sea no more!

Perry Boardman

**Start the year
with Jesus.
Read your Bible
Every Day!**

Walking the Right Pathway

Continued from Page 1

There is not a saved person that does not have a daily battle **with the flesh. Our flesh is opened to sin, in fact our flesh loves sin.**

Galatians 5:19-21 Now the works of the flesh are manifest, which are these; Adultery, fornication, uncleanness, lasciviousness, **20** Idolatry, witchcraft, hatred, variance, emulations, wrath, strife, seditions, heresies, **21** Envyings, murders, drunkenness, revellings, and such like: of the which I tell you before, as I have also told you in time past, that they which do such things shall not inherit the kingdom of God.

Let's talk about the second pathway we can take in 2024. The pathway of spiritual delight. (Also known as the Spirit Life). The spirit gives us victory over our lust.

Galatians 5:16 This I say then, Walk in the Spirit, and ye shall not fulfil the lust of the flesh.

To walk in, means to surrender to the spirit of truth.

John 16:13 Howbeit when he, the Spirit of truth, is come, he will guide you into all truth: for he shall not speak of himself; but whatsoever he shall hear, that shall he speak: and he will shew you things to come.

Ephesians 5:18 And be not drunk with wine, wherein is excess; but be filled with the Spirit;

We will be lead by either our flesh or the Holy Spirit. Which one wins depends upon which one we yield to.

An old wise tale that has so much truth to it. A missionary back in the 1700 went up to an Indian chief that he had lead to the Lord many years before. Not seeing the chief for a long time he asked the chief "how it was going?" The Chief replied. "I have a great battle inside me. A black dog and a white dog fighting. "The missionary asked him "which one was winning." He said " the one I feed the most." The same is true for you and I. Which one do we feed the most? The spirit or the flesh?

Romans 6:16 Know ye not, that to whom ye yield yourselves servants to obey, his servants ye are to whom ye obey; whether of sin unto death, or of obedience unto righteousness?

Either my flesh will win or my spirit will win.

Galatians 5:16 This I say then, Walk in the Spirit, and ye shall not fulfil the lust of the flesh.

The Spirit will defeat the flesh if we will allow Him to. Jesus, Jesus, Jesus, sweetest name I know, fills my every longing, keeps me singing as I go. Is His name the sweetest name you know?

1 John 4:4 Ye are of God, little children, and have overcome them: because greater is he that is in you, than he that is in the world.

1 Corinthians 10:13 There hath no temptation taken you but such as is common to man: but God is faithful, who will not suffer you to be tempted above that ye are able; but will with the temptation also make a way to escape, that ye may be able to bear it.

We still have a say in what we allow in our lives!

We need to avoid places, people, things, images, music, and anything that brings temptation to us! If we mess around with it (sin), we will give in to it (sin)! I hate to say it but this is easier to say than do. Just like the apostle Paul said in Romans 7:15 For that which I do I allow not: for what I would, that do I not; but what I hate, that do I.

It seems I am always running out of space, so I will conclude this by saying, in 2024 ask the Lord to help us to feed the spirit more than the flesh. Have a great year in 2024.

A Rare Book

A collector of rare books ran into an acquaintance who told him he had just thrown away an old Bible that he found in a dusty, old box. He happened to mention that Gutenberg-somebody-or-other had printed it.

"Not Gutenberg?" gasped the collector.

"Yes, that was it!"

"You idiot! You've thrown away one of the first books ever printed. A copy recently sold at auction for half a million dollars!"

"Oh, I don't think this book would have been worth anything close to that much," replied the man. "It was scribbled all over in the margins by some guy named Martin Luther.

Ugly People

A bus carrying only ugly people crashes into an oncoming truck and everyone inside dies. They then get to meet their Maker and because of the grief they have experienced, he decides to grant them one wish each before they enter Paradise. They're all lined up and God asks the first one what his wish is. "I want to be gorgeous," and so God snaps His fingers and it is done. The second one in line hears this and says, "I want to be gorgeous, too." Another snap of His fingers and the wish is granted. This goes on for a while but when God is halfway down the line, the last guy in line starts laughing. When there are only ten people left, this guy is rolling on the floor, laughing his head off. Finally, God reaches this guy and asks him what his wish will be. The guy calms down and says: "Make 'em all ugly again."

Acts 2:38

An elderly woman had just returned to her home from an evening of religious service when she was startled by an intruder. As she caught the man in the act of robbing her home of its valuables, she yelled, "Stop! Acts 2:38!" [Turn from your sin.] The burglar stopped dead in his tracks. Then the woman calmly called the police and explained what she had done. As the officer cuffed the man to take him in, he asked the burglar, "Why did you just stand there? All the old lady did was yell a Scripture at you." "Scripture?" replied the burglar, "she said she had an AXE and two 38's!"

Answers to Book of Proverbs Quiz:

- 1) B - Solomon **Proverbs 1:1**
- 2) D - But safety is of the LORD. **Proverbs 21:31**
- 3) A - Will be pecked out by the ravens in the valley.
Proverbs 30:17
- 4) A - So is a fair woman which is without discretion.
Proverbs 11:22
- 5) B - But grievous words stir up anger. **Proverbs 15:1**
- 6) B - But he that gathereth by labour shall increase.
Proverbs 13:11
- 7) D - So is the sluggard to them that send him.
Proverbs 10:26
- 8) A - But he that honoureth him hath mercy on the poor. **Proverbs 14:31**
- 9) C - A haughty spirit before a fall. **Proverbs 16:18**
- 10) B - But the LORD pondereth the hearts. **Proverbs 21:2**
- 11) C - But the tender mercies of the wicked are cruel.
Proverbs 12:10
- 12) C - And contention shall go out; **Proverbs 22:10**
- 13) B - Life. **Proverbs 13:3**
- 14) B - 7 **Proverbs 9:1**
- 15) B - Understanding, but that his heart may discover itself. **Proverbs 18:2**
- 16) B - Wealth **Proverbs 19:4**
- 17) B - A gossip **Proverbs 16:28**
- 18) B - A good name **Proverbs 22:1**
- 19) C - Love **Proverbs 17:9**
- 20) B - Get rich. **Proverbs 23:4**

Kids Jokes For Your Younger Brother or Sister

Jokes you can use on your little brother or sister -made from kids their own age.

- 1 - **What's red, white, blue, and green?**
A patriotic turtle! From Jessica, age 7, Abilene, TX
- 2 - **What did one flag say to the other flag?**
Nothing. It just waved! From Eloise, age 9, Charlottesville, VA
- 3 - **Why did Paul Revere ride his horse from Boston to Lexington?**
Because the horse was too heavy to carry! From Betty, age 9, CT
- 4 - **How is a healthy person like the United States?**
They both have good constitutions! From Tom P., age 8, KY
- 5 - **What dance was very popular in 1776?** Independence! From Rachel, age 8, Long Beach, CA
- 6 - **What would you get if you crossed George Washington with cattle feed?**
The Fodder of Our Country! From Marie K., age 12, Dallas, TX
- 7 - **Teacher: "Where was the Declaration of Independence signed?"**
Student: "On the bottom!"



From Christy, age 14, Denver, CO

8 - **Did you hear the one about the Liberty Bell?**

Yeah, it cracked me up! From Tom P., age 8, KY

9 - **What did King George think of the American colonists?**

He thought they were revolting! From Scott, age 11, Colorado

10 - **Do they have a 4th of July in England?**

Yes. That's how they get from the 3rd to the 5th.

From Big Al, a grownup, Frankfort, KY.

"Re-immersed"

A woman was attending a membership seminar in a Baptist Church. On the questionnaire she wrote, "I was baptized in High School, but want to be - and she had crossed out the word "reimbursed" and written, "reimmersed."

Riddles For Your Younger Brother or Sister

What do you call a 100 year old ant?

An antique.

What do you call an ant who likes to be alone?

An independent.

What do you call an ant who skips school?

A truant.

Why don't anteaters get sick?

Because they are full of antibodies.

What games to ants play with elephants?

Squash.

No God – No Brain

A college class was led by an atheist professor and every day he'd stand in front of his class and say, "Have you ever seen God?" to which nobody would answer. Then he'd ask, "Have you ever felt God?" and nobody would answer. Finally he'd ask, "Have you ever heard God?" and, like the other times, nobody would answer. He then would say, "It is obvious that there is no God." One day a Christian student had been having an extremely bad day; her car broke down, her mother was sick, her boyfriend was out of town, and she'd gotten a bad grade on one of her exams. She had been fed up with her professor's little act every morning, so she decided to do something about it. While the professor stood up at the beginning of class and did his thing, the student had an idea. She got up and said, "Professor, would you mind if I said something?" He said, "Of course not. This is an expressive classroom, and I think it would be fine if you spoke your mind." The girl said to the class, "Have you ever seen our professor's brain?" and nobody answered. Then she asked, "Have you ever felt our professor's brain?" and nobody answered. Finally she asked, "Have you ever heard our professor's brain?" and, like the other times, nobody answered. She then said, "It is quite obvious that our professor has no brain." (Psalm 14:1 KJV) *"The fool hath said in his heart, There is no God. They are corrupt, they have done abominable works, there is none that doeth good."*

That's All Folks