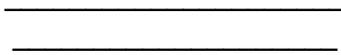




# Proverbs 10:12-21

## Wisdom Doesn't Weaponize Words



### The Key to Wisdom is Love

ILLUS: Chick-fil-A twitter war

A Paragraph, v. 12 says what it's about, 13-18 help round out the picture

V. 12 - Hatred (bookended in v.18) stirs but LOVE (agape) COVERS (can mean keep to oneself, not respond with knowledge)

V. 13 - helps us understand, these proverbs are specifically related to our words

V. 14 - not "best kept secrets" wisely restrained lips

V. 15 - wealth displayed, not through our bank accounts, but the city of friends that surround (Wisdom, wealth,

V. 16 - how is this "wealth" of friends developed? righteous (right, in line with) living (actions). Also helps us understand how easy it is to lord things over people in prosperous times.

V. 17 - listen intently, don't lead others in the blurting out of details and taking others "down" (poverty) with you.

V. 18 - corrosive power of concealing wrongly (hatred), don't utter (spread) slander (evil report)

Though wealth can represent strength, and poverty can lead to ruin, the verses that precede and follow v. 15 (vv. 12–14 and 16–18) reinforce the call to recognize that what people pursue and how they pursue it are more important than what they possess.

### Wise Love is Expressed Succinctly

ILLUS/APP: TQ Lions on Semoran!

V. 19 - if we're not spewing everything we know, we more quickly move to restored relationship (not "Sweeping things under the rug" - concealing in love, not to be returned to the database of our thoughts against someone)

V. 20 - connection between our heart and words (out of the heart the mouth speaks Matt 12:34)

V. 21 - the impact of our words on those around us - how we can benefit our circles/tribes

ILLUS/APP: Practice Safe Text - Marriages!

These three proverbs contrast the prudent and productive character of righteous speech with the revealed emptiness of what is concealed in foolish speech

# Jesus is Wise Love Displayed

Jesus expressed God's Love for us in the most succinct way possible... in three little but cosmically powerful words: "It is finished"

Jesus offers a complete version of forgiveness: Covering transgressions against the law & Restoring right relationship

1 Corinthians 11

Communion: Psalm 32 & 51 (read quietly and go to anyone that you have offense against before receiving communion together at the tables)

## Questions for further consideration (online only)<sup>1</sup>:

Do you show annoyance in your face-to-face or online speech? If you argue, do you do it to strip or to cover the other person in love?

How have you seen, in either your life or someone else's, that prosperity and things going well actually bring out the worst in us?

Have you had enough success in life to be tempted to make your career or wealth your identity? Have you seen others give into this temptation? How can it be defeated?

Looking back on your life, would you say that prosperity or adversity has been the greater spiritual trial and test for you?

Are you careful with your words or are you impulsive, speaking without a lot of thought?

Do you talk too much? Ask a couple of people who know you well to be frank with you.

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<sup>1</sup> Keller, Timothy. God's Wisdom for Navigating Life: A Year of Daily Devotions in the Book of Proverbs