

Life Lessons  
from  
Proverbs

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# Life Lessons from Proverbs

Foundational Wisdom for Sons

## **Wisdom**

**Values**

**Character**

**Knowledge**

**Integrity**

**The Word of God**

CharDell P. Self

*Life Lessons from Proverbs: Foundational  
Wisdom for Sons*

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The material contained in this book is purely  
informational and is not intended as  
professional advice. It is plain old-fashioned  
common sense.

# Dedication

To my sons, Joshua, David, and Israel. I love you more than I know how to express. I thank God for each of you. You have grown to be fine men.

In memory of my mom who modeled before me her love for the Word of God.

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# Acknowledgments

Thank you to my husband and to all of you who have supported and encouraged me along the way. Most of all I thank God for entrusting this project to me and for blessing my husband, Juan, and me with three of the finest young men around.

# Introduction

Proverbs is my favorite book in the Bible. The more I read God's Word (the Holy Bible), the more apparent it becomes that it is a goldmine of building blocks. These building blocks are what I call life lessons.

Whenever I came across something that would be of particular interest to my sons, I would write, "Life Lesson" in the margin with the intent of writing a book, someday, with these building blocks of foundational wisdom.

No doubt, there will be times when you'll find yourself standing on life's unstable sandy beaches, even there, find the foundational wisdom of God. Even there, steady yourself on the Solid Rock, Christ Jesus.

My sons, the day has come and this is the book. I pray these building blocks of life (foundational wisdom) will have a profound impact on your life. I pray the Word of God will always be the foundation of your knowledge, integrity, values, character, and wisdom.

## **Wisdom**

**Values**

**Character**

**Knowledge**

**Integrity**

**The Word of God**

# Life Lesson

Focus on Where You Want to Go

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Remember when we would take walks? Sometimes you would trip over your own feet and I would tell you to look where you were going. That's not just toddler advice; it's advice for you as a young man. Focus on where you are supposed to be going.

Don't fix your gaze on where your friends are going or where they want to take you. Think on the things you've always wanted to do and be. Don't let the wrong crowd sway you from your dreams.

With all my heart I pray you listen to God and do what He has called you to do.

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# The Proverb

Avoid it, do not travel on it; turn away from it and pass on. For they do not sleep unless they have done evil; and their sleep is taken away unless they make someone fall. For they eat the bread of wickedness, and drink the wine of violence.

—Proverbs 4:15–17

# Life Lesson

## There's a Difference Between a Woman and a Lady

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You can hardly take your eyes off her. She's beautiful. She's gorgeous. She's hot!

You ask her to join you with some of your friends at a black-tie affair. You imagine she will be an impressive trinket on your arm, but it becomes painfully apparent that this girl-of-your-dreams is now a nightmare.

Her attire says she's confusing a black-tie affair with a strip joint where she's the main attraction. As she laughs and snorts at nearly everything, finds merit in a good belch, and flirts with anyone willing to give her a glance, the evening quickly goes from bad to worse.

I'm not suggesting you seek out the social elites. I am saying to seek out the *lady* God has prepared for you.

Son, there's a difference between a woman and a lady. Go for the lady.

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# The Proverb

As a ring of gold in a swine's snout, so is a  
lovely woman who lacks discretion.

—Proverbs 11:22

# Life Lesson

Think Before You Speak

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Think before you speak.

Put yourself in the other person's shoes; would you want someone to say to you what you're planning to say to someone else?

There's enough pain and heartache in the world. Do you really need to add more?

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# The Proverb

There is one who speaks like the piercings of a sword, but the tongue of the wise promotes health.

—Proverbs 12:18

# Life Lesson

Work Honestly, You'll Sleep Better

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God has a way of putting holes in our pockets when we attempt to gain wealth the wrong way or fail to give back to Him what is due.

God has a plan for you. Follow His way.

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# The Proverb

Wealth gained by dishonesty will be diminished, but he who gathers by labor will increase.

—Proverbs 13:11

Will a man rob God? Yet you have robbed Me! But you say, 'In what way have we robbed You?' In tithes and offerings.

—Malachi 3:8

# Life Lesson

Don't Waste Time with a Woman Void  
of Common Sense

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Marry a woman who guards her home in word and deed. A woman with a loose mouth, a careless spirit, and a mind full of folly will surely bring your home to ruin.

Don't waste your time with a woman void of common sense. She'll destroy everything.

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## The Proverb

The wise woman builds her house, but the foolish pulls it down with her hands.

—Proverbs 14:1

# Life Lesson

Peace and Quiet are Priceless  
Commodities

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When eaten in peace and quiet, even stale crackers taste better than a feast with drama.

There's nothing wrong with a little noise. However, understand that noise is one thing, confusion is another. There's something to be said for peace and quiet.

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# The Proverb

Better is a dry morsel with quietness, than  
a house full of feasting with strife.

—Proverbs 17:1

# Life Lesson

Don't Settle

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It is a wonderful thing to have someone to share your love. Wait and discover the one God has for you. Do you want what you can get or do you want what God has to give?

Don't settle. 'Better than nothing' usually turns out to be worth little more than nothing.

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## The Proverb

He who finds a wife finds a good thing,  
And obtains favor from the LORD.

—Proverbs 18:22

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# About the Author

CharDell (Dell) Self is a faith-based professional communicator, certified public speaking coach, author of more than a dozen books, and book coach.

One of her roles is that of a pastor's wife. Married since 1984, their union has produced three adult sons.

As a certified public speaking coach, Dell is committed to helping nervous, rambling talkers become confident, purposeful communicators. If you want to start improving your public speaking skills today, visit the website and sign up for the public speaking e-course titled *Deliver Your Message!* or scan the QR code at the end of this book.

If you have a book in your head, but you're stumped as to how to get it in your hands, Dell's book coaching can solve that problem. She loves turning writers into authors.

As a speaker, Dell is described as "Engaging," "Delightfully funny," and "A must hear."

For booking and coaching information, contact Dell at [www.SpeakThroughMe.com](http://www.SpeakThroughMe.com).

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