



A Guide to Wise Living

About the Series: Life's a maze with many challenges, distractions, and obstacles, and sometimes we take a wrong turn or make foolish choices. The Book of Proverbs gives us practical ways to live wisely so as not to have so many regrets in life and helps us live in such a way that we fully enjoy our lives as God intended.

Part 11

Finding Greatness

Proverbs 30:24-33 | Dr. Stephen G. Tan

DISCUSS

Many of us may feel small and inadequate, and may wonder how we can find success and greatness in this life. The answer may surprise you. Read Proverbs 30:24-33.

Work hard in faithful preparation (v. 25)

Ants are insects that are tiny and can be easily crushed by your fingers.

- What can you learn from an ant?
- What does it mean to work hard in faithfulness?
- How did Paul demonstrate that he had been faithful to the Lord until the end in 2 Timothy 4:7? How does this kind of greatness differ from becoming prominent and well-known by the world?
- How would you encourage yourself to do your work faithfully?

Seek protection to guard your weakness (v. 26)

Rock badgers live in the clefts of the rocks, which provide them protection from many of the lurking dangers.

- Why should we, like rock badgers, find protection from the Evil One?
- Do you realize that you can't do everything by yourself? What armors of God should you be putting on (Ephesians 6) so that you will not wilt under the assault of the enemy, but be able to stand tall, finding greatness in life?
- Are you aware of your weaknesses that the enemy might use to attack you? How do you seek protection and help to guard against your weaknesses or when trials and tests come?

Have an overarching goal and singular purpose (v.27)

Locusts don't have a leader that guides and directs them, but when they fly in as a swarm, they have great order and can destroy miles of crops like an invading army.

- What is your singular purpose in life?
- Why should the overarching goal of each Christian be to live his or her life for the glory of God?
- How do you please God according to His Word?
- Why would focusing on this goal, purpose and mission as set forth in the Bible make you GREAT?

Realize our differences have a purpose (v.28)

Spiders spin an intricate web to catch its prey.

- What do you appreciate about the differences in people?
- Do you appreciate the workers who do the hard work and labor under the sun? What do you think would happen without them?
- How significant are you in God's eyes? What special role did He entrust to you, even if it may appear insignificant to others? How are you using that role for His glory instead of comparing yourself with others?

Watch out for pride and keep humble (v.29-33)

- What creatures are mentioned in these verses, and what warning is given to these creatures?
- Why are they to watch out for pride and keep humble as Proverbs 16:18 warns as well?

- How could you avoid falling into the pitfall of pride that leads to destruction?
- Discuss how God's grace in your life and that you are called to prove yourself only to Him keep you humble?

REFLECT

It is the Lord who bestows upon us greatness in this life, and more importantly in eternal life. How are you following God's criteria for greatness?

PRAY

Heavenly Father, thank You that although I may feel insignificant many times in my life, in your eyes my greatness and success is measured by my working hard in faithful preparation, seeking protection to guard my weaknesses, having an overarching goal and singular purpose, realizing people's differences have a purpose, and watching out for pride and keeping humble. Thank You, Father, that all these things are possible with the Holy Spirit in my life. I pray in Jesus' precious name. Amen.