

What do you do when you do something mean or wrong?

What standard do you live by? When you do something wrong, do you admit it or fess up? Who do you tell? Proverbs is a book in the Bible that could help you find answers to situations you might be facing. As a collection of wisdom, Proverbs is a book worth reading, and it will help you in life.

The proverbs of Solomon son of David, king of Israel:

For learning wisdom and discipline;

for understanding insightful sayings;

For receiving prudent instruction

in righteousness, justice, and integrity;

For teaching shrewdness to the inexperienced,

knowledge and discretion to a young man— (Prov 1:1-4, CSB)

1. Carefully observe what Proverbs says about confessing. What do you see? What does it mean? How do you apply this?

The one who conceals his sins

will not prosper,

but whoever confesses and renounces them

will find mercy. (Prov 28:13, CSB)

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Teacher Notes

What standard do you live by? When you do something wrong, do you admit it or fess up? Who do you tell? Proverbs is a book in the Bible that could help you find answers to situations you might be facing. As a collection of wisdom, Proverbs is a book worth reading, and it will help you in life.

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Review with the student the introduction to Proverbs. Go through each reason why Proverbs is beneficial:

For learning wisdom (experience and knowledge of good judgment) **and discipline** (practice and training like sports); **for understanding insightful** (thoughtful and with deep understanding) **sayings**;

For receiving prudent (sensible and careful) **instruction in righteousness** (morally right in God's eyes), **justice** (respecting the laws of God), **and integrity** (honest and with principled character);

For teaching shrewdness (astute power of judgment) **to the inexperienced, knowledge and discretion** (judgment to speak or behave without offending or revealing private personal information) **to a young man**

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Ask the student: what do you observe about the word "prosper?" What about those who cheat to win at sports? Or those who cheat to get a good grade? Or those who cheat to make more money? Take a moment to discuss.

Consider what Job said:

If I am wicked, woe to me!

And even if I am righteous, I cannot lift up my head.

I am filled with shame (Job 10: 15; CSB)

Job is talking about how sin creates shame. It is when someone knowingly does something wrong and hides it. Shame is a painful and an unpleasant feeling for a reason.

Ask the student: what do you observe of, "but whoever confesses and renounces them will find mercy?"

The wisdom of Proverbs says to restore your relationship with God and any person involved by acknowledging your sin and commit to stopping that sin from happening again.