

Dear Heavenly Father,

### *Praise*

You said, “My son, if your heart is wise, my heart too will be glad. My inmost being will exult when your lips speak what is right” (Prov 23:15–16). How amazing to think that my choices can give you, the Creator of the universe, a glad heart! I worship you today, for you are worthy of great praise! I want to give you the joy of knowing that I’m walking in the truth (3 John 1:4).

### *Today in Your Word*

Today you shared with me the sayings of the wise. One that stood out to me was the warning not to set my heart on being rich: “Don’t wear yourself out trying to get rich. Be wise enough to know when to quit. In the blink of an eye wealth disappears, for it will sprout wings and fly away like an eagle” (Prov 23:4–5 NLT). This proverb reminds me how quickly money can disappear: it’s here today and gone tomorrow. I could labor my entire life to build a great fortune, and in one moment (e.g., the Crash of 1929), it could all be gone. Even if I manage to keep my wealth during this life, it will be over all too soon. God said to the rich man, “Fool! This night your soul is required of you, and the things you have prepared, whose will they be?” (Luke 12:20). Rather than laboring and toiling to get more money, I should be seeking first your Kingdom. If I’m faithful in the little things of this present life, you will honor me with true wealth in the life which is to come (Matt 25:21).

### *Reflection*

The wise say, “Whoever gives an honest answer kisses the lips” (Prov 24:26). What a fascinating proverb! The book of Proverbs has a lot to say about giving a right response to those who seek an answer from me (cf. Prov 15:23, 28; 18:13; 22:20–21). Am I taking time to understand a matter before I give my answer? Do I spend time studying your word so that I’m ready to respond with your wisdom when people seek my advice?

### *Request*

Father, you said that those who return evil for evil are violating your word (Prov 24:29). Help me to leave vengeance in your capable hands and overcome evil with good (Rom 12:17–21).

### *Thanksgiving*

Thank you for reminding me not to envy sinners, but rather to live in the fear of the LORD. They will certainly be cut off, but I have a hope that is certain! (Prov 23:17–18).

In Jesus’ name, Amen.

*Suggested Hymn: “[Profit and Loss](#)” – George W. McMillan.*

*Meditation Verse: Proverbs 23:23.*