

## June 13 Answers

- 1) The wise sayings and proverbs of Solomon. Some of Solomon's proverbs address the benefits and burdens of **borrowing**: "The rich rules over the poor, and the borrower is the **slave** of the lender" (Prov 22:7). At first glance this seems to mean that we should never borrow money, but this proverb wasn't meant to be the last word on borrowing. Jesus said, "Give to the one who asks you, and do not turn away from the one who wants to **borrow** from you" (Matt 5:42 NIV). This means that both lending and borrowing are **permissible**. The point of Solomon's proverb is that we should carefully consider our **ability** to repay the amount we wish to borrow. A loan we can handle is **enabling**; a loan we can't handle is **enslaving**. Since borrowing puts us in a vulnerable position, we should only borrow from individuals and institutions who will not take **advantage** of us. We should also make sure we're borrowing for a good reason, for the risk is too great to borrow money on a whim.