

CHAPTER V

CONCLUSION AND SUGGESTION

In this chapter, the writer will write about the conclusion of the study. The conclusion of the study is answering to the research questions. The writer will also give a few suggestions for the readers of the text and for the next researchers who will make an analysis on this text.

5.1 Conclusion

In the conclusion, the writer briefly answers the research questions that are formulated in the previous chapter. The research questions are “what are the moral values of the Book of Proverbs 1-2?”

All Biblical-based values should direct people towards achieving an improved quality of life because that is the blueprint from God for his people. Enhancing people’s life should be the main agenda of every Judeo-Christian community. Among all the life-enhancing values from Bible commandments, moral values found in the Book of Proverbs chapters 1-2 are discipline for success, respect towards parents and their teaching, revering God, discretion and love of wisdom and warning against promiscuity.

Discipline for success requires an understanding and respect of the values of success. Constantly working on advancing one’s life in a responsible way is a key to discipline for success. Without a constant effort, one can’t advance. Incorporating discipline in life requires one to set it as their long-life agenda. Respecting parents and their teaching is one of the ways one can reciprocate everything one’s parents has done for them. It requires a child to follow a measure of discipline from their father and a set of

instructions from their mother. By paying attention to the presence of parents in his or her life, one can learn from their parents. A wise son or daughter knows that keeping their parents' values is the best way to respect and delight their parents.

Revering God means conducting one's life in a way that enhances the lives of God's other children. Revering God requires not only faith but also concrete actions. Revering God doesn't require one to possess an esoteric wisdom, rather by knowing that there are inherent and concrete values in serving God's other children one will rever God. Applying discretion and wisdom in one's life should be in the task list of every active member of a community. Following a certain set of subtle rules in a community requires discretion. Using discretion and wisdom in everyday's dealing with other people will also help one avoid unnecessary problems for every party.

King Solomon warned every person in a relation against promiscuity in order for every person to have a healthy and happy relationship. He warned people to avoid violating the covenant of a relationship at all cost. King Solomon wishes that every person constantly works on building a healthy and happy relationship because every relationship indeed needs a constant and active effort from every partner in a relationship. Considering building a relationship as running on the treadmill and actively working on the relationship will improve satisfaction for both sides involved in the relationship.

King Solomon disposed his advice for those who wish to make an improvement in their personal lives. Not only is this moral message applicable for the readers in King Solomon's time, his wisdom surpasses the scope of time and space to readers of all ages, including our contemporary time.

The only requirements for benefiting from this evergreen wisdom are willing and humble heart to learn accompanied by a measure of application in one's personal life. As long as a person is willing to grow by softening his heart and learn the wisdom, he will find a way to apply the wisdom he learns for improving his life. On the other hand, those who harden their heart and refuse to understand what is good and right, will be lost in their own pursuit without achieving something spiritually significant to improve their lives. Above all, the Book of Proverbs written by King Solomon is available for all people who humble themselves and find self-improvement and building a society important.

5.2 Suggestions

5.2.1 Suggestion for the Readers of the Text

Reading the Bible ideally should be aimed at achieving a better understanding necessary for making a life improvement. Upon reading a chapter of the Book of Proverbs, the readers should at least find for themselves at least one applicable wisdom to make this improvement. Due to the didactic nature of the Book of Proverbs, it is not hard to find this applicable, however, at the same time this applicable-wisdom finding endeavor is often overlooked. It is important not to get caught in being amazed by the essence of the wisdom. Wisdom in all forms, Biblical teaching, parental advice and classroom lesson, is only useful if there is a measure of application. The readers are advised to read the Book of Proverbs chapters 1-2 to benefit themselves, not just accumulating knowledge without a practical application. Therefore, self-improvement in life is a path that every reader with a willing heart to learn can take.

5.2.2 Suggestion for Teaching Discourse Analysis

In the writer's humble opinion, an optimum setting for a discourse analysis class is a class where debates and disputes are encouraged. Ideas often are lost unspoken. By articulating and expressing our ideas to the fellow students, a student would transmit and contribute their ideas to the collective reasoning of the class. One may have a different opinion to his class' collective opinion, but his opinion, rather than being dismissed, should add to the collective reasoning of the class. By teaching the ethical codes of how to disagree with others' opinion, the lecturer will ensure or at least improve the cooperative classroom behavior of his students. By constantly reasoning with fellow students, students' cognitive ability and argumentation skills will improve significantly.

5.2.3 Suggestion for Further Study

The writer's advice for the next researcher who has a plan on conducting a similar research is to study the contextual information of the text before undertaking the research. By understanding the contextual information, the readers will be able read the text through the Judeo-Christian lens and have a better comprehension. Contextual information should be included in the research. Another advice from the writer is to use credible commentaries as references of the study. Due to the vast amount of available commentaries, it is difficult to choose the best references for the study. A pre-research for finding these credible sources would be valuable in conducting this study. In most cases, classic commentaries or books are of higher quality than most contemporary commentaries. Though not always the case, the probability of choosing the right and quality references can be improved quite significantly by using classic commentaries.

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