

Sermon Title:

"The Master and Commander!" ~ Proverbs 16:1-33

INTRODUCTION:

When God is Our Father, We Plan Differently. vs. 1-7

A. What we think.

1. I have to come with the plan. v. 1
2. If the plan works, it is because of me. v. 5

B. What the Lord wants us to think. vs. 1, 2

1. The answer is from the Lord. v. 1
2. The Lord weighs the motives. v. 2
3. Commit your works to the Lord. v. 3
4. The Lord is sovereign over all. vs. 4, 5
5. The fear of the Lord will keep me from evil. v. 6
6. The Lord can make my enemies like me. v. 7

II. When God is Our Father, We Think Differently. vs. 8-19

A. Why it is hard to think what is right.

1. We value income more than justice. v. 8
2. We value gold more than wisdom. v. 15
3. We value the spoil more than humility. v. 19

B. How do we think what is right?

1. Understand how "divine decisions" work.

a) The Lord directs my steps. v. 9

b) Honest scales are from the Lord. v. 11

2. Learn all the weights of the bag. v. 11

3. Know he who watches his way preserves his life. v. 17

4. Be humble. v. 18, 19

III. When God is Our Father, We Speak Differently. vs. 20-33

A. The principle of prosperity.

1. "There is no other way to be happy but to trust and obey." v. 20.
2. The wise in heart are called discerning. v. 21
3. Understanding is a fountain of life. v. 22
4. Every decision comes from the Lord. v. 23

B. A specific application of the principle.

1. A wise man's heart guides his mouth. v. 23
2. Pleasant words are sweet. v. 24
3. A scoundrel's speech is like a scorching fire. v. 27
4. A perverse man stirs up dissension. v. 28
5. A violent man leads his neighbor down a path that is not good. v. 29
6. Better to control your temper than to take a city. v. 32

CONCLUSION: