

# sermon notes

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Pastor Tony Caffey, VBVF | Fearing Deity & Defying Stupidity  
April 7, 2024 | “Honor the Lord with an Honorable Life” | **Proverbs 15:1–33**

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- 1) Honor the Lord with a \_\_\_\_\_  
(15:1–4)
  
- 2) Honor the Lord with a \_\_\_\_\_  
(15:5–12)
  
- 3) Honor the Lord with a \_\_\_\_\_  
(15:13–24)
  
- 4) Honor the Lord with a \_\_\_\_\_  
(15:25–33)

## Questions for further application of God’s Word:

### GO DEEPER

If Jesus paid for our sins at the cross, why should we be concerned with living a virtuous, honorable life? Isn’t the book of Proverbs just a book of moralisms that are unnecessary for a Christian? Why or why not?

Read Proverbs 15:1–33. What does Solomon say explicitly in this passage that the Lord hates (i.e. abominates)? What does God love? What does God love seeing demonstrated by his people?

Read Proverbs 15:33. How does humility come before honor? Why is humility key to living a virtuous life? Would other people describe you as a humble person? Why or why not?

### GET PERSONAL

Proverbs 15:3 says, “The eyes of the LORD are in every place, keeping watch on the evil and the good.” Is this verse comforting or distressing for you? Why? How is Solomon using this statement to motivate behavior?

There are several statements in Proverbs 15 about a cheerful heart and a gentle tongue. How do these traits make a positive influence on your life and the lives of others? Is it possible to always have a cheerful heart in this world? What about a gentle tongue?

Read Proverbs 15:16–17. Is Solomon hyperbolizing in these verses? Would you prefer to be poor and live with peace or be rich and deal with hatred? Do we have to choose between those?

### PUT IT INTO PRACTICE

Do a quick assessment of your life right now. Do you have a gentle tongue? What about a teachable spirit? A cheerful heart? A humble mindset? Ask some other trusted friends to help you with this assessment. How would they respond to these questions on your behalf? Ask them if they’ve seen growth in these areas in your life.

### ADVANCED QUESTION

Solomon mentions Sheol in Proverbs 15:11. Where is Sheol? What is Sheol? Is it a kind of netherworld? Look up all the occurrences of this word in the OT to establish a baseline of usage. To help you understand the usage of this term and how it relates to NT realities of heaven and hell, see the following article by Matthew Emerson: <https://www.desiringgod.org/articles/what-is-sheol>.