Owner's Manual for Living Well

Tony Mauck · Proverbs 20:9–15

INTRODUCTION

- There is a blueprint, but so often people try to build without the blueprints.
- An owner's manual on living well is provided for us in the Proverbs.
- Your actions matter, and not just what you do, but why you do it. Your motives and attitudes matter.

1 The Station of Humility

Proverbs 20:9; 2 Kings 5:9–14

- Who can say, I have cleansed my heart. I am pure from my sin.
- We need to realize our brokenness, our absolute brokenness when we come to Him.
- Look up for mercy. Look around with compassion. Look within carefully.
- As we've expected others to move on from our mistakes, we should move on from theirs.

2 The Hallmark of Honesty

Proverbs 20:10; Proverbs 11:1; 1 Corinthians 6

- Differing weights and differing measures. Both of them are abominable to the Lord.
- A false balance is an abomination to the Lord, but a just weight is his delight.
- Christians, people who walk by wisdom are people who don't take advantage of others, who don't try to snow others, don't try to get away with something.
- Sometimes you have to turn the other cheek. Sometimes you go the extra mile. But whatever you do, be honest.

3 The Building of Integrity

Proverbs 20:11

- It is by his deeds that a lad distinguishes himself if his conduct is pure and right.
- Young people, it starts right where you are right now.
- This is an awesome testing ground for who you're going to be as an adult.
- Start in your youth. Determined to have as your purpose, I'm going to be a blessing to others.
- Goodness involves a choice. It's a life willingly and totally live for God, even when the choice is hard and costly.

4 The Employment of Ingenuity

Proverbs 20:12; Proverbs 4:23

- The hearing ear, and the seeing eye. The Lord has made both of them.
- Our eyes and our ears need to be used to honor our God and kept from evil.

- The kinds of information that you're filtering through what you see and through what you hear will determine what's in here.
- Keep your heart with all diligence, for from it flows the springs of life.

5 Do Not Love Sleep

Proverbs 20:13

- Do not love sleep, lest you become poor.
- Work hard. Be people of industry and enjoy the rewards of your labor.
- Now remember this is a proverb. There's no guarantees here.

6 The Lips of Knowledge Are More Precious

Proverbs 20:15

- There is gold and abundance of jewels, but there is something worth more than all of those precious gems and all of that incredible wealth.
- It says something about the nature of our pursuits, and it says something about what we truly value.
- Are we pursuing lips and hearts filled with the knowledge of God's wisdom?

THE CHALLENGE

And are you listening to this instruction that gives life? And will you embrace it if you have not done so while there's time and opportunity?

MY NOTES