



IHL Devotionals 2025-26: Proverbs 29-31: Speak up

*This year our devotionals focus on the book of Proverbs. This book contains advice to achieve wisdom and godly living. This week we finished with **Proverbs 29-31**.*

*Participation in devotionals is encouraged but not mandatory. Feel free to speak up, ask questions, and share lessons from your own lives and faith journeys. This is a safe space. All are encouraged to **follow along in your own bible** – bring your printed copy, use the app, whatever works best for you.*

Discussion

Our season-long journey through the book of Proverbs concludes with a strong call to action in the final chapter, offering straightforward ways to bring Godliness to our own corners of the world.

31:8-9: Speak up for those who cannot speak for themselves; ensure justice for those being crushed. Yes, speak up for the poor and helpless, and see that they get justice.

There is little room for misinterpretation in this verse. We all know right from wrong. When we see something wrong or unjust, we are called to do something about it. In fact, having studied this chapter should empower you and give you the courage to act when you feel that tug on your conscience.

I tried to come up with a list of reasons I have caught myself hesitating to do what I knew was right. How many times have you told yourself:

- It won't make a difference
- My contribution is too small
- It's not really my problem
- It wasn't that bad
- I can't do it
- No one else is doing anything
- I wouldn't know what to say
- People will think I'm weird
- There might be consequences
- Everyone might not agree with me

These instances eat at me. They're weak moments where I've allowed doubt and fear to overtake faith.

The good news is that God doesn't ask us any of those questions. The Bible doesn't say, "speak up if you think you can do it without embarrassing yourself"; it says, "speak up." It doesn't say, "make sure everyone likes you"; it says, "ensure justice."

A further point I need to keep reminding myself is, we're not even called to have all the answers. God does not need our take on the situation. He needs our faithfulness. I often think of the boy with the fishes and the loaves: He didn't need to figure out how to cut his food into 10,000 pieces, all he had to do is offer what he had and let God do the rest. Similarly, we don't need to know how every situation will be resolved before we speak up against injustice; we just need to speak.

Questions & launching points

1. Can anyone share a time in their life where they regret not taking action?
2. On the flip side, does anyone have a good win to share about seeking justice for the helpless?
3. How can we better position ourselves to speak up for those who can't speak for themselves?

Closing prayer & prayer requests

Next week: Proverbs wrap up