

SERMON
Give and Take
Proverbs 1:8-19

Gain is given by God, not taken by man

1. Listen to gain (v.8)

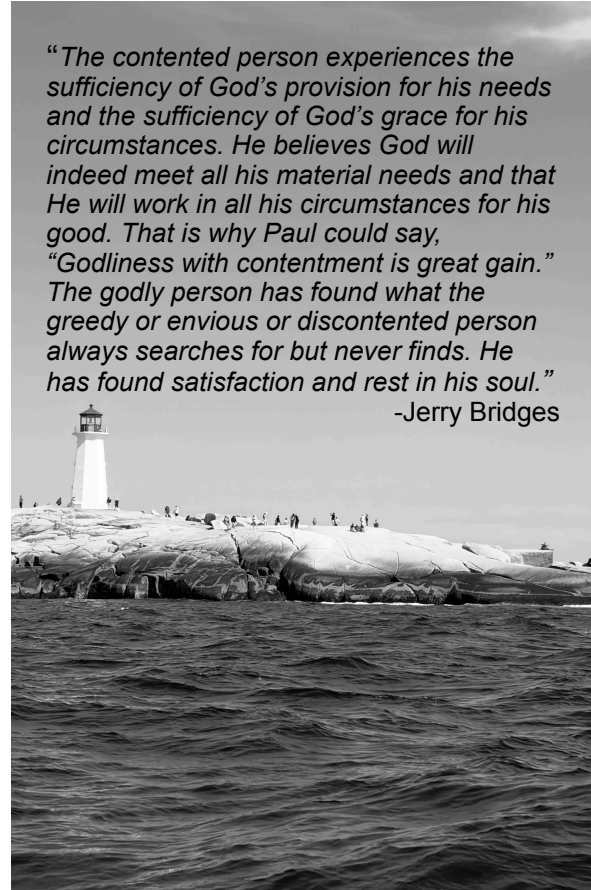
2. Deny the invitation to take (v. 9-14)

3. Know the consequences for taking (v. 15-19)

OLD TESTAMENT READING

Proverbs 1:8-19

⁸ Hear, my son, your father's instruction,
and forsake not your mother's teaching,
⁹ for they are a graceful garland for your head
and pendants for your neck.
¹⁰ My son, if sinners entice you,
do not consent.
¹¹ If they say, "Come with us, let us lie in wait for blood;
let us ambush the innocent without reason;
¹² like Sheol let us swallow them alive,
and whole, like those who go down to the pit;
¹³ we shall find all precious goods,
we shall fill our houses with plunder;
¹⁴ throw in your lot among us;
we will all have one purse"—
¹⁵ my son, do not walk in the way with them;
hold back your foot from their paths,
¹⁶ for their feet run to evil,
and they make haste to shed blood.
¹⁷ For in vain is a net spread
in the sight of any bird,
¹⁸ but these men lie in wait for their own blood;
they set an ambush for their own lives.
¹⁹ Such are the ways of everyone who is greedy for unjust
gain;
it takes away the life of its possessors.



“The contented person experiences the sufficiency of God’s provision for his needs and the sufficiency of God’s grace for his circumstances. He believes God will indeed meet all his material needs and that He will work in all his circumstances for his good. That is why Paul could say, “Godliness with contentment is great gain.” The godly person has found what the greedy or envious or discontented person always searches for but never finds. He has found satisfaction and rest in his soul.”
-Jerry Bridges

**BEDFORD PRESBYTERIAN
CHURCH**

July 26, 2026
Rev. Jim Poopalapillai
www.bedfordpca.org
49 Nelsons Landing Blvd., Bedford, NS

Welcome to Bedford Presbyterian Church

We are glad to have you join us today. We envision a church worshipping with joy, loving each other with compassion and reaching out to the world with grace and justice.

CHILDREN

There is a unstaffed nursery and a separate room for nursing mothers if needed on the lower level.

UPCOMING

Bedford Presbyterian’s 50th Anniversary Service:
Sunday, September 27

Summer Book Club Gathering:

Wednesday, August 26, 7 p.m. A gathering to discuss the summer book “The Enemy Within” at Jim and Dina’s house.

BIBLE STUDIES

- **ISMC study groups** are meeting—contact Will or Chi Perrie.

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

Family of the week: Reid and Eleanor Campbell

HOW TO GIVE

E-transfer to bedfordpca@gmail.com

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS
INVOCATION

CALL TO WORSHIP

Leader: Come, all you who are thirsty, come to the waters; and you who have no money, come, buy and eat!

People: **Come, buy wine and milk without money and without price.**

Leader: Why do you spend your money for that which is not bread, and your labor for that which does not satisfy?

People: **Listen diligently to God, and eat what is good, and delight yourselves in rich food.**

Leader: Give ear and come to God; listen, that you may live.

People: **Seek the Lord while he may be found; call upon him while he is near!**

Leader: Let us return to our God, for he will abundantly pardon. Let us worship God together.
—Based on Isaiah 55:1-3,6-7

HYMN OF PRAISE

Rejoice, the Lord is King

NEW TESTAMENT READING

Ephesians 1:15-23

¹⁵ For this reason, because I have heard of your faith in the Lord Jesus and your love toward all the saints, ¹⁶ I do not cease to give thanks for you, remembering you in my prayers, ¹⁷ that the God of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of glory, may give you the Spirit of wisdom and of revelation in the knowledge of him, ¹⁸ having the eyes of your hearts enlightened, that you may know what is the hope to which he has called you, what are the riches of his glorious inheritance in the saints, ¹⁹ and what is the immeasurable greatness of his power toward us who believe, according to the working of his great might ²⁰ that he worked in Christ when he raised him from the dead and seated him at his right hand in the heavenly places, ²¹ far above all rule and authority and power and dominion, and above every name that is named, not only in this age but also in the one to come. ²² And he put all things under his feet and gave him as head over all things to the church, ²³ which is his body, the fullness of him who fills all in all.

CALL TO REPENTANCE

Based on New Testament Reading

SONG OF REFLECTION

Psalm 63

CONFESSION OF SIN

People: **Gracious God, our sins are too heavy to carry, too real to hide, and too deep to undo. Forgive what our lips tremble to name, what our hearts can no longer bear, and what has become for us a consuming fire of judgment. Set us free from a past that we cannot change; open to us a future in which we can be changed; and grant us grace to grow more and more in your likeness and image; through Jesus Christ, the light of the world. Amen.**

SILENT CONFESSION

WORDS OF ASSURANCE

Leader: Hear the good news:
This saying is sure and worthy of full acceptance, that Christ Jesus came into the world to save sinners.
He himself bore our sins in his body on the cross, that we might be dead to sin, and alive to all that is good.
I declare to you in the name of Jesus Christ, you are forgiven.

People: **Thanks be to God.**
—based on 1 Timothy 1:15; 1 Peter 2:24

SONGS OF RENEWAL

Still
Goodness of God

GOSPEL READING

Luke 7:1-17

⁷ After he had finished all his sayings in the hearing of the people, he entered Capernaum. ² Now a centurion had a servant who was sick and at the point of death, who was highly valued by him. ³ When the centurion heard about Jesus, he sent to him elders of the Jews, asking him to come and heal his servant. ⁴ And when they came to Jesus, they pleaded with him earnestly, saying, “He is worthy to have you do this for him, ⁵ for he loves our nation, and he is the one who built us our synagogue.” ⁶ And Jesus went with them. When he was not far from the house, the centurion sent friends, saying to him, “Lord, do not trouble yourself, for I am not worthy to have you come under my roof. ⁷ Therefore I did not presume to come to you. But say the word, and let my servant be healed. ⁸ For I too am a man set under authority, with soldiers under me: and I say to one, ‘Go,’ and he goes; and to another, ‘Come,’ and he comes; and to my servant, ‘Do this,’ and he does it.” ⁹ When Jesus heard these things, he marveled at him, and turning to the crowd that followed him, said, “I tell you, not even in Israel have I found such faith.” ¹⁰ And when those who had been sent returned to the house, they found the servant well.

¹¹ Soon afterward he went to a town called Nain, and his disciples and a great crowd went with him. ¹² As he drew near to the gate of the town, behold, a man who had died was being carried out, the only son of his mother, and she was a widow, and a considerable crowd from the town was with her. ¹³ And when the Lord saw her, he had compassion on her and said to her, “Do not weep.” ¹⁴ Then he came up and touched the bier, and the bearers stood still. And he said, “Young man, I say to you, arise.” ¹⁵ And the dead man sat up and began to speak, and Jesus gave him to his mother. ¹⁶ Fear seized them all, and they glorified God, saying, “A great prophet has arisen among us!” and “God has visited his people!” ¹⁷ And this report about him spread through the whole of Judea and all the surrounding country.

PRAYER FOR THE CHURCH AND CITY

Prayer for prayer, and for Reid & Eleanor Campbell

THE LORD’S PRAYER

People: **Our Father who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name. Thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread; and forgive us our debts, as we forgive our debtors; and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory, forever. Amen.**

DOXOLOGY

SERMON

Give and Take

Jim Poopalapillai

CLOSING HYMN

Blessed be Your Name

BENEDICTION

Leader: The peace of God, which passes all understanding, keep your hearts and minds in the knowledge and love of God, and of God’s Son, Jesus Christ, our Lord; and the blessing of God Almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, remain with you always.
—based on Philippians 4:7

DISMISSAL

Leader: Let us go forth to serve the world as those who love our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ.

People: **Thanks be to God!**

