- <sup>1</sup>A gentle answer will calm a person's anger. But an unkind answer will cause more anger.
- <sup>2</sup>Wise people use knowledge when they speak. But fools speak only foolishness.
- <sup>4</sup>As a tree gives us fruit, healing words give us life. But evil words crush the spirit.
- <sup>5</sup>A foolish person rejects his father's correction. But anyone who accepts correction is wise.
- <sup>7</sup>With their words wise people spread knowledge. But there is no knowledge in the thoughts of the foolish.
- The Lord hates what evil people do.

  But he loves those who do what is right.
- <sup>13</sup> Happiness makes a person smile. But sadness breaks a person's spirit.
- <sup>14</sup>Smart people want more knowledge. But a foolish person just wants more foolishness.
- <sup>15</sup> Every day is hard for those who suffer. But a happy heart makes it like a continual feast.
- <sup>16</sup> It is better to be poor and respect the Lord than to be wealthy and have much trouble.
- <sup>17</sup>It is better to eat vegetables with those who love you than to eat meat with those who hate you.
- <sup>18</sup> A person who quickly gets angry causes trouble.But a person who controls his temper stops a quarrel.
- <sup>19</sup>A lazy person's life is as difficult as walking through a patch of thorns. But an honest person's life is as easy as walking down a smooth highway.
- <sup>20</sup> A wise son makes his father happy.
  But a foolish person hates his mother.

- <sup>21</sup>A man without wisdom enjoys being foolish. But a man with understanding does what is right.
- <sup>22</sup> Plans fail without good advice.
  But plans succeed when you get advice from many others.
- <sup>23</sup> People enjoy giving good answers!

  Saying the right word at the right time is so pleasing!
- <sup>24</sup> A wise person does things that will make his life better. He avoids whatever would cause his death.
- <sup>25</sup>The Lord will tear down the proud person's house. But he will protect the property of a widow.
- <sup>26</sup>The Lord hates evil thoughts. But he is pleased with kind words.
- <sup>27</sup>A greedy person brings trouble to his family.

  But the person who can't be paid to do wrong will live.
- <sup>28</sup>Good people think before they answer. But the wicked simply give evil answers.
- <sup>30</sup> Good news makes you feel better. Your happiness will show in your eyes.
- <sup>31</sup> A wise person pays attention to correction that will improve his life.
- <sup>32</sup>A person who refuses correction hates himself. But a person who accepts correction gains understanding.