

Studies in the Book of Proverbs by [John T Polk II](#)  
For [The Fellowship Room](#)

**(#17) Six Hasty Misjudgments of Youth: 6:1-7-27 – ONE AT A TIME.  
6:12-15: (3) Watch Your Company!**

**Verse 12: Listen**

An old adage said, "An idle mind is the Devil's workshop," and may well have come from these Divine proverbs. Having described hastiness (**6:1-5**), fruitlessness (**6:6-11**), Solomon now shows someone who is useless. "A worthless person" is one of "no profit," either to God or man. The "worthless" are also "wicked" (perverse), that is, someone who is determined not to follow God's Wisdom. This is not a person who occasionally sins and repents (**1 John 1:5-2:6**), but evil runs deep in this person's heart. As Jesus taught, some people say the right things, but their heart believes differently (**Mark 7:6-7**). But here, Solomon also shows there are some with wicked hearts whose mouth is as "perverse" as their hearts. As Jesus also said, "A good man out of the good treasure of his heart brings forth good; and an evil man out of the evil treasure of his heart brings forth evil. For out of the abundance of the heart his mouth speaks" (**Luke 6:45**). A perverse mouth reveals a perverse heart. Their language is filled with that which offends, abuses, profanes God and man!

**Verses 13: Look**

Body language is sometimes as important as voice, so Solomon alerts us to look while we listen. One who "winks with the eyes" is signaling deceit and lies, for truth calls for eye-to-eye contact. "He who winks with the eye causes trouble, But a prating fool will fall" (**Proverbs 10:10**). Repeated blinking can mean a person is momentarily blocking out the one to whom he/she is lying. This can also show hatred without a cause (**Psalms 35:19-21**). The "shuffling of the feet" also can mean the wicked person is not standing solid behind whatever he/she is saying. It can indicate an awkwardness and discomfort with the present situation that speaks of the dishonesty within. One who "points with his fingers" can be getting someone to think they will be told something off to one side that wouldn't come up in a public conversation. "Pointing" is not necessarily evil, but often is used by the wicked to distract from the lack of truth.

**Verse 14: Learn**

Don't be distracted from the source of these deceiving tactics: "perversity" in his "heart." This heart has been twisted away from God by choice and practice because "he devises evil continually." This removes all doubt that their track record should indicate what path he/she is following, both where it is from and where it will go! Not content with following other wicked people, to "devise" means this person invents, plans, applies, and seeks evil for victims. Sowing "discord" will



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be dealt with in the next section, but note that it is the exact opposite of the first Gospel preaching ([Acts 1:26-2:1](#)). Planting ideas, suspicions, and doubts in people's minds that divide, separate, and discourage unity is completely ungodly and perverse!

**Verse 15: Leave**

Get away from such people immediately, for when they go down (as they certainly will), you don't want to be in their company to go down with them! "Without remedy" means they don't have a possibility of salvation without changing.

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