

PROVERBS

Copywork

by

Katherine Hirn

It shall be, when [the king of Israel] sits on the throne of his kingdom, **that he shall write himself a copy of this law in a book**, out of that which is before the priests the Levites. It shall be with him, and he shall read from it all the days of his life, that he may learn to fear Yehovah his God, to keep all the words of this law and these statutes, to do them, that his heart not be lifted up above his brothers, and that he not turn aside from the commandment, to the right hand, or to the left.

to the end that he may prolong his days in his kingdom, he and his children, in the middle of Israel.

(Deuteronomy 17:18-20)

But you are a chosen race, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, a people for God's own possession, that you may proclaim the excellence of him who called you out of darkness into his marvelous light.

(1 Peter 2:9)

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What Is Copywork?

by Anne Elliott

Copywork is simply the copying of a text by hand. In this book, we will be copying the book of Proverbs from the Word of God.

Copywork has many benefits. It provides students with excellent writing models and it gives opportunity to gain accuracy, work on spelling, learn proper sentence structure and more. Copywork improves grammar, reading ability, dyslexia, handwriting, vocabulary, memory, and reasoning abilities.

Perhaps the biggest benefit is the opportunity to discuss the material being copied. Often times we even end up digging for more information about the person or topic.

"These words, which I command you today, shall be on your heart; and you shall teach them diligently to your children, and shall talk of them when you sit in your house, and when you walk by the way, and when you lie down, and when you rise up. You shall bind them for a sign on your hand, and they shall be for frontlets between your eyes. You shall write them on the door posts of your house, and on your gates" (Deuteronomy 6:6-9).

We were inspired to begin using daily of copywork of Scripture when we read the following two passages:

"It shall be, when [the king of Israel] sits on the throne of his kingdom, that he shall write himself a copy of this law in a book, out of that which is before the priests the Levites. It shall be with him, and he shall read from it all the days of his life; that he may learn to fear Yevovah his God, to keep all the words of this law and these statutes, to do them; that his heart not be lifted up above his brothers, and that he not turn aside from the commandment, to the right hand, or to the left; to the end that he may prolong his days in his kingdom, he and his children, in the middle of Israel" (Deuteronomy 17:18-20).

"But you are a chosen race, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, a people for God's own possession, that you may proclaim the excellence of him who called you out of darkness into his marvelous light" (1 Peter 2:9).

We are training up kings and queens in the service of the KING OF KINGS, who wants us to help build His kingdom. Copywork is much more than just handwriting practice! This is actually one of the most important subjects of your child's day, because this is the time when YHWH's Word enters his heart so that the Spirit of God can write His Torah on your child's heart.

"The entrance of your words gives light. It gives understanding to the simple" (Psalm 119:130).

"For as the rain comes down and the snow from the sky, and doesn't return there, but waters the earth, and makes it grow and bud, and gives seed to the sower and bread to the eater; so is my word that goes out of my mouth: it will not return to me void, but it will accomplish that which I please, and it will prosper in the thing I sent it to do" (Isaiah 55:10-11).

If you have time for nothing else, do copywork!

Several years ago, I met Katherine Hirn and was introduced to her methods of homeschooling her 15 children. She wrote the following about her then teenage son, who did lots of copywork every day, even though he struggled with a genetic language-based learning disability (and was told he would never read, write, or communicate):

"Since being a man of God is important to him, we encourage him to continue with his copying of the Bible. I can truly say that this has vastly improved his reading ability and writing ability. He sits and copies the Bible word for word for two hours a day. Then after each chapter he is required to draw a picture and write a one-page journal on that chapter. His copywork is then used to discuss grammar, and his writing is used to check spelling and grammar."

Are you inspired? I hope so!

~Anne

How to Use This Book

by Katherine Hirn

This book is written for use with middle school level students. It is a 31-week copybook of the book of Proverbs with pages included for journaling and artwork.

It could also be used by high school students or an adult as an intense daily copybook, which could be completed in one month (one week per day).

Each chapter of Proverbs is broken up into sections to copy daily, and on the last day of each week, the student is to journal and draw something about the chapter of Proverbs just copied.

The Use of God's Name

Throughout this curriculum, you will see that we use a unique version of God's name that isn't visible in most English Bibles.

The name "Yehovah" refers to the Creator of the Universe, our Heavenly Father.

His name in Hebrew is spelled יהוה. In your English Bible, His name is translated as "the LORD."

Learn more about this topic at
<http://anneelliott.com/2015/11/pure-lips/>.

"For then I will restore to the peoples a pure language,
that they all may call on the name of Yehovah,
to serve Him with one accord."
Zephaniah 3:9, NKJV

Proverbs 1

- 1 The proverbs of Solomon, the son of David,
king of Israel.
- 2 to know wisdom and instruction,
to discern the words of understanding.
- 3 to receive instruction in wise dealing,
in righteousness, justice, and equity.
- 4 to give prudence to the simple,
knowledge and discretion to the young man.
- 5 that the wise man may hear, and increase in
learning,
that the man of understanding may attain to
sound counsel.
- 6 to understand a proverb, and parables,
the words and riddles of the wise.
- 7 The fear of Yehovah is the beginning of
knowledge,
but the foolish despise wisdom and instruction.
- 8 My son, listen to your father's instruction,
and don't forsake your mother's teaching.

- 9 for they will be a garland to grace your head,
and chains around your neck.
- 10 My son, if sinners entice you, don't consent.
- 11 If they say, "Come with us,
Let's lay in wait for blood,
let's lurk secretly for the innocent without
cause;
- 12 let's swallow them up alive like Sheol,
and whole, like those who go down into the
pit.
- 13 We'll find all valuable wealth,
We'll fill our houses with plunder.
- 14 You shall cast your lot among us,
We'll all have one purse."
- 15 My son, don't walk on the path with
them.
Keep your foot from their path,
- 16 for their feet run to evil.
They hurry to shed blood.

- 17 For in vain is the net spread in the sight of
any bird.
- 18 but these lay wait for their own blood.
They lurk secretly for their own lives.
- 19 So are the ways of everyone who is greedy
for gain.
It takes away the life of its owners.
- 20 Wisdom calls aloud in the street.
She utters her voice in the public squares.
- 21 She calls at the head of noisy places.
At the entrance of the city gates, she utters
her words:
- 22 "How long, you simple ones, will you love
simplicity?
How long will mockers delight themselves in
mockery,
and fools hate knowledge?"
- 23 Turn at my reproof.
Behold, I will pour out my spirit on you.
I will make known my words to you.
- 24 Because I have called, and you have refused,
I have stretched out my hand, and no one
has paid attention;

- 25 but you have ignored all my counsel,
and wanted none of my reproof.
- 26 I also will laugh at your disaster.
I will mock when calamity overtakes you.
- 27 when calamity overtakes you like a storm,
when your disaster comes on like a
whirlwind,
when distress and anguish come on you.
- 28 Then will they call on me, but I will not
answer.
They will seek me diligently, but they will
not find me.
- 29 because they hated knowledge,
and didn't choose the fear of Yehovah.
- 30 They wanted none of my counsel.
They despised all my reproof.
- 31 Therefore they will eat of the fruit of their
own way,
and be filled with their own schemes.
- 32 For the backsliding of the simple will kill
them.
The careless ease of fools will destroy them.
- 33 But whoever listens to me will dwell securely,
and will be at ease, without fear of harm."

Art - Proverbs 1

About the Author

Katherine Hirn (known as Katie to her friends) has been married for 25 years and is the mother of 15 children. She and her family live in Central Michigan, where they homeschool and seek to minister to other families. They also have a small hobby farm, with chickens, ducks, cats, dogs, goats, and more! Katherine's husband Jeremy is an elder in their local Sabbath congregation, and both are involved in ministering to families, single moms, special-needs adults, and foster children. Katie is passionate about doing biblical things in biblical ways – and teaching others to do the same.

You can follow Katie on her blog, at <http://hirnhomeschoolers.com>.

