

Series – Proverbs and Parenting
Guidance for the Young
Proverbs 3 **May 29, 2022**

Proverbs

The Two-fold purpose of Proverbs

1. to produce the skill necessary for godly living
2. to develop discernment

An All-Important Motto

The fear of the Lord is the foundation for all spiritual knowledge and wisdom

The Sons of Proverbs

The wise son

The foolish son

The simple son

Guidance for the Young

The blessings of wisdom (vv. 1-12)

Wisdom is rooted in sound teaching.

The basic instruction -

Negative – do not forget my law

Positive – keep my commands

What are two benefits of keeping the commands?

1. longevity
2. peace – prosperity, wholeness, harmony, health

General Truth – An obedient life is a healthy life.

How about you?

Four commands (Sid Buzzell)

1. Trust in the lord, and don't lean on your own understanding.

General truth - Those who follow wisdom have an easier, Less-problematic life.

2. Fear the Lord, and don't admire your own wisdom.
3. Honor the Lord, and do not withhold your offering.

How do we honor Him with our possessions?

1. We trust that He will provide for us.
2. We give the first and best of what we have to Him.
3. We are fair in our treatment of others.
4. We are generous.
5. We express gratitude for all He gives us.

General truth - Godliness results in gain.

Is this an absolute promise?

4. Appreciate the Lord, and do not misunderstand his discipline.

Love

Two-fold warning.

1. Don't reject or take lightly the Lord's discipline.
2. Don't resent or loathe His rebuke.

Thought - God's discipline is for our good and not His pleasure.

Questions for parents –

Do you discipline God's way?

Do you do it out of love for your child?

Do you do it because you want what is best for your child?

Or, do you do it out of anger, or tiredness, or complacency, or embarrassment?

Lesson – If you discipline properly, and if you teach your child to accept discipline, then your child will be sensitive to the Lord’s correction in his life, and he will most likely become a wise son.

The high value of wisdom (vv. 13-20)

1. Wisdom brings happiness.

Principle – That which wisdom returns to her possessor is of greater value than anything gold or silver can purchase.

2. Wisdom is generous.

General Truth – Wisdom gives a long life as well as a quality life.

3. Wisdom undergirded God’s creation.

The value of wisdom in building relationships with others (vv. 21-35)

1. Exhortation to embrace valued qualities

The plea – Embrace the valued qualities of the previous verses.

2. The benefits to those who embrace valued qualities

What are the benefits of embracing the valued qualities?
life, safety, avoidance of troubles, peaceful sleep, confidence in the future, and avoidance of traps set by the wicked

3. Principles for good relationships with others (27-35)

Principle – Don’t withhold good from those who deserve it.

Principle – Don’t harm your neighbor.

Principle – Don’t envy a violent man.

Here, God gives four reasons why such envy is wrong:

1. The LORD hates a perverse person.
Contrast - The upright enjoys fellowship with God (3:32).
2. The Lord curses the wicked.
Contrast – God blesses the righteous.
3. God mocks arrogant mockers (scoffers, scorners) causing their actions to boomerang on them.
Contrast – The humble receive God’s grace.
4. Fools are shamed.
Contrast – God honors the wise.

How About You?

Do you value wisdom?

Do you want to be a wise parent? A wise person?

Do you want to see the benefits of your children walking the path of wisdom?

What should you do as a parent?

1. Live a wise, godly life in front of your children.
2. Admit your mistakes when you make them.
Use them as learning experiences.
3. Have a passionate awe for God.
4. Have a passionate awe for obeying His commands.
5. Teach your children with that passionate attitude.
Try to avoid saying,
“Do it because I said so!”
6. Teach your children the consequences of the life of folly.
7. Teach your children the benefits of living a wise life.
8. Don’t be a couch potato.
Don’t be lukewarm.
Don’t be apathetic.
Don’t be sitting on the sidelines.
9. Get into the battle for the mind, character, and spiritual nature of the next generation.

~ Pastor Mark D. Montgomery