



Proverbs 4

A Father's Wise Instruction

Hear, O sons, a father's instruction, and be attentive, that you may gain^[a] insight,
2 for I give you good precepts; do not forsake my teaching.

3 When I was a son with my father, tender, the only one in the sight of my mother,
4 he taught me and said to me, "Let your heart hold fast my words;
keep my commandments, and live."⁵ Get wisdom; get insight;

do not forget, and do not turn away from the words of my mouth.⁶ Do not forsake her,
and she will keep you; love her, and she will guard you.⁷ The beginning of wisdom is this:

Get wisdom,

and whatever you get, get insight.⁸ Prize her highly, and she will exalt you;
she will honor you if you embrace her.⁹ She will place on your head a graceful garland;
she will bestow on you a beautiful crown."¹⁰ Hear, my son, and accept my words,
that the years of your life may be many.¹¹ I have taught you the way of wisdom;
I have led you in the paths of uprightness.¹² When you walk, your step will not be
hampered,

and if you run, you will not stumble.¹³ Keep hold of instruction; do not let go;
guard her, for she is your life.¹⁴ Do not enter the path of the wicked,
and do not walk in the way of the evil.¹⁵ Avoid it; do not go on it;
turn away from it and pass on.¹⁶ For they cannot sleep unless they have done wrong;
they are robbed of sleep unless they have made someone stumble.

¹⁷ For they eat the bread of wickedness
and drink the wine of violence.¹⁸ But the path of the righteous is like the light of dawn,
which shines brighter and brighter until full day.¹⁹ The way of the wicked is like deep
darkness;

they do not know over what they stumble.²⁰ My son, be attentive to my words;
incline your ear to my sayings.²¹ Let them not escape from your sight;
keep them within your heart.²² For they are life to those who find them,
and healing to all their^[b] flesh.²³ Keep your heart with all vigilance,
for from it flow the springs of life.²⁴ Put away from you crooked speech,
and put devious talk far from you.²⁵ Let your eyes look directly forward,
and your gaze be straight before you.²⁶ Ponder^[c] the path of your feet;
then all your ways will be sure.²⁷ Do not swerve to the right or to the left;
turn your foot away from evil.

Prayer Journal

Devotion

During the time of the Old Testament, formal education was very unpopular. It was the job of parents to teach their children about God and life. Today we are blessed with formal education from infancy, through adulthood. Education is constantly evolving and growing. It is one of the few things in life that we can pursue through our entire life. Think about it, when you are an infant you learn to crawl and eventually run. When you're an adult you learn new things everyday, we all in one way or another crave to learn daily. Whether we go to classes that can help us mimic our Pinterest boards, or we learn about a new money saving app, we are always looking to learn something. Its our human nature to be curious. We can use this wonderful curiosity as we sit in front of little ones and teach them. We can use their natural curiosity to bring them up in the faith and point them to Christ, the only teacher who knows what it is like to learn from God himself, as Jesus is God and man. What a blessing to be able to shape little minds into believers of a God who gifts us with learning opportunities everyday.

Prayer: Lord help us to see your ways, and bring that into our lives and classrooms. Help us to listen more to you and the learning opportunities you provide for us daily. We know you provide these so we can learn about you and our faith. Amen