

- WELCOME TO -
MAURICE REFORMED CHURCH

...FOLLOWING GOD, LOVING OTHERS...



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The background image is a photograph of a dirt path that stretches from the bottom of the frame towards a horizon. The path is flanked by tall, dry grass. In the distance, on the horizon line, a small cross is visible against a bright, orange-hued sky, suggesting a sunset or sunrise. The overall mood is peaceful and contemplative.

A STUDY OF PROVERBS
THE PATH OF WISDOM

AUGUST SERMON SERIES WITH PASTOR JEREMY

DAILY DEVOTIONALS
WEEK OF AUGUST 23-29

SUNDAY, AUGUST 23

STUDY OF PROVERBS | THE PATH OF WISDOM: PASSING ON THE COORDINATES

[PROVERBS 22:6](#), [23:13-14](#), [23:15-19](#)

1. T_____

Proverbs 22:6

2. D_____ / C_____

Proverbs 23:13-14

3. J_____

Proverbs 23:15-19

MONDAY, AUGUST 24

PROVERBS 19 | FAMILY INTERACTIONS

This week I want to focus on interactions within the family. Specifically we are going to look at the importance of passing down wisdom to the next generation. As parents we pass on things without even trying, because our kids hear us and watch us and they reflect us. If we desire our children to know and love the Lord, then they need to see that evident in our lives. If we desire that our kids know and love other things, then that too will be evident in our lives.

In chapter 19:18 we see the importance of discipline. This is a good verse for our world today because a trend in our culture is for parents to want to be seen as a friend rather than a parent. To do that, discipline is usually off the table. If we want to walk down the wise path as a parent we must be willing to discipline our kids when necessary. This is an opportunity to help our kids know what is good and right and a way of passing on wisdom to the next generation. We all have things to learn and correcting our kids is one way of helping them gain wisdom.

In verses 26 and 27 there is some encouragement for the kids. Kids, don't fight against your parents or push them away. Also, make sure to keep desiring to learn from your parents, otherwise you might find yourself down a road you didn't want to go down. I know there is a desire to grow up quickly and gain more freedom, but enjoy the time under the wisdom of your parents as they prepare you for the years ahead where you will have responsibility.

There are many other good verses in this chapter, which ones stood out to you?

"God Gave Me You" - Dave Barnes

What things have you learned from your parents that you feel they “passed” down to you? How did you receive their wisdom?

Discuss as a family the importance of passing on and receiving wisdom.

Lord, help us to lead well as parents and help us as kids to desire the wisdom our parents have received from You.
Lord, bring unity in families today.

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TUESDAY, AUGUST 25

PROVERBS 20 | WHO CAN SAY?

Today I have two verses that deal with our relationship with God. Verse 9 asks, who can say I have made my heart pure, I am clean from sin? The problem with these verses is the "I". On my own I cannot make my heart pure and I cannot clean myself from sin. God alone can make my heart pure. We hear this in the Psalms as well when we read, "Create in me a clean heart God and renew a right Spirit within me." This verse also reminds us that on our own we are unable to be clean from sin. We can try to do good things and look good, but we can only be washed clean by God, through the blood of Jesus.

Another verse that goes along with this is verse 11 where we see that a child makes himself known by his acts. Proverbs has given us verse after verse that separates wisdom and folly, which makes it easier to see if the actions of a child, or adult, is pure and upright.

In verse 22 we are reminded of a New Testament truth that we are not to repay evil or take revenge. We are to wait on the Lord and He will rescue us. Thankfully, we do not have to determine what people deserve, but we simply get to trust in God and follow His path.

Finally, verse 25 stood out to me when it said that it is a snare to say rashly, "It is Holy." There are times where we can put the name of God on something that was our desire and not His. Even as believers not every thought or action was from God and so we need to be wise and honest with what is really going on in the situation.

What verses convicted you today?

["Yet Not I But Through Christ In Me"](#) - Boyce Worship Collective

Have you ever taken revenge or wanted to take revenge on someone? What does it say about this in Proverbs?

How can someone become pure and upright?
Why shouldn't we repay evil with evil?

Lord, help us to know our need for You. Without you, Lord, we are stuck in sin, but with You we are found righteous before the throne. Thank you, God, for making us clean.

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WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 26

[PROVERBS 21](#) | WHAT SHALL WE DO?

In this chapter there are a few verses about what to do in this world and make us ask, "What does God desire?" My hope is that each one of us reading these devotions want to please God. We long to hear Him say, "Well done, good and faithful servant." May prayer is that we desire to walk the path of wisdom every day, not for our own benefit, but simply because we fear the Lord and want to honor Him.

In verse 3 shows us a glimpse into what we are to do. God desires that we would do what is right and live in justice. This verse may remind us of Micah 6:8 where we are told to act justly, love mercy, and walk humbly with our God. God always wants us to live in a way that is right and desires the fair treatment of others as well. For some justice is a punishment and for others justice is freedom. God desires for us to make sure we are reflecting Him, are walking in the truth, and treating others as the truth instructs us.

Another verse that deals with others is verse 13 and our interaction with the poor. If we close our ear to the cries of the poor we will find that we will also not be heard when we are in need. Doing justice towards people is to help them when they are in need. Walking in righteousness requires actions when a situation arises. Faith in Christ is not a spectator sport, but it requires us to live in wisdom in each of our interactions with others.

SONG:

"Lord, I Give You My Heart" - CXMMXNS

KIDS QUESTION:

What is God's desire for us? How should we live?

YOUTH/ADULT QUESTION:

What does it mean to do righteousness and justice?

PRAYER:

Lord, give us eyes to see and a mind to understand how to walk in truth with others.

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THURSDAY, AUGUST 27

PROVERBS 22 | TRAIN UP A CHILD

Today we come to one of the main verses that describes the role of the parent. Parents, we are to train up a child in the way that they should go. As we mentioned on day #1, there are many different things that we can train up a child in. If we grew up loving a sport, we might want to train up our children to love that sport as well. Without knowing it we train up our children in how to speak, how to interact with others, and how to respond to different circumstances. As parents this is slightly terrifying because everything we do and say is being constantly watched and will impact our children.

I know that we know the truth behind this passage. It's not about sports, it's not about grades, it's not about jobs or anything like that. This verse is all about faith and passing on the truth of wisdom that we have experienced in God to our kids. This should be the most natural thing for us because our lives should be reflecting Jesus Christ every single day. Our kids should see how important time with God is by the time we spend with God. Our kids need to see the importance of prayer because they see us in prayer. We also need to invite them into spaces of prayer and conversation that help them process through situations in a God honoring way.

If we don't find that this happens naturally, then I would suggest that it is worth the effort of making sure we are intentionally reflecting God. The more we reflect God the more it will become natural. This is not just a job for parents, but grandparents and great grandparents have this special job as well. There is nothing better to pass down than our faith. There is no monetary inheritance and no story that holds the value that faith in Christ can bring. It's time to make sure we are training our children up in what is important.

"Faithful One" - Brian Doerksen

How do your parents reflect God? What have they taught you about following God? Can others see God's light shine through you? How?

Students, what are some things you learned from your parents? What have your parents taught you about following God? Parents, what do you want your children to know about God?

Lord, thank you for blessing us with this family. May we daily reflect Your truth to those around us.

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FRIDAY, AUGUST 28

PROVERBS 23 | REJOICING OVER YOUR CHILDREN

Have you ever had a proud parent moment? I'm guessing that each stage of life comes with different proud moments that we have for our kids. Right now I am so proud of Bree and how she parents Cadence and continues forward with her grad school studies. I'm proud of Kara as she is finishing her last year in the nursing program and she exudes the love of Jesus in the hospital. I'm proud of Ben and how he desires to share the things he enjoys with others. I could go on and on and I'm sure you could too.

In our passage today we see two verses that talk about parents being excited about what their kids are doing. Verse 15 and 16 talk about having a glad heart when our children are wise and speak what is right. In verse 24 having a righteous child and one who is wise brings joy to the parents. Both of these verses point to having children who are walking in the truth and following the Lord.

Out of all the things I could be proud of, I am the most excited about the faith of my children and earnestly pray already for the faith of my grandchild. I love to watch my daughter invest deeply in the local church as a wife and a mother. It brings me joy to see my other daughter use her gifts for the glory of God and I could listen to my son talk about God and His word all day. I rejoice because my children know the Lord.

I have walked with parents whose children are struggling in their faith. I have seen the sorrow that comes when children decide to walk down the path of folly. If you find yourself in that situation please know that I will be praying for you and if you would like to share the names of your kids, I would gladly pray by name for the day we can all rejoice in those children walking with the Lord.

SONG:

"You Say" - Lauren Daigle

KIDS QUESTION:

Have your parents told you how proud of you they are?
What things do you do that give them the feeling of pride?
You are a blessing to your parents; it is awesome to see
you grow in the Lord!

YOUTH/ADULT QUESTION:

What are some things that your kids do that make you smile? What are some ways you can keep passing on the truth of God?

PRAYER:

Lord, we pray for our kids who do not know You. We pray, Lord, that You will keep revealing Yourself to them and that they would come to know You as Lord and Savior.

[illegible]

SATURDAY, AUGUST 29

[PROVERBS 24](#) | WORDS TO LIVE BY

Today we are going to focus on multiple verses of wisdom. First, verses 10-12 talk about having strength when things get tough. Solomon challenges the reader to be strong even when things are hard and then goes on to say we must rescue those being taken away to death and hold back those who are walking towards the slaughter. In my mind this is an encouragement to tell others about God/Jesus even when it seems hard to do. If we act like we don't see their sin or know God in those situations it is noticed by God. He has called us to be witnesses for Him, and when we choose not to, we are foolish.

Verses 17-20 talk about how we are to act towards those who are unbelievers. We should not rejoice when someone falls or be glad when someone fails. This is not how wise people see those around them. In the same way we are not to fret about sinners succeeding or desire what they have. Even though it may look like they are succeeding according to the world's standards, it will not last. No, what we have as Christians is much more valuable than any earthly achievement.

Finally, in verse 24 it says that we should not tell the wicked they are right, instead we must rebuke the wicked with the truth. To lie to the wicked about their sin is a foolish thing to do. What people need, whether they want it or not, is the truth. These are just a few things that our kids and grandkids need to see in us. May we live these things out and be an example that they can follow.

SONG:

"Live Like You're Loved" - Hawk Nelson

KIDS QUESTION:

How can you be an example to the people around you?

YOUTH/ADULT QUESTION:

Which of the verses today do you find most challenging to follow? Which ones do you find the easiest?

PRAYER:

Lord, give us eyes to see others like You do. We confess that we don't always warn those who are walking away from You. Please forgive us and grant us boldness in the times ahead.

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