

Direction and Discipline

Various scriptures

"Do not despise the Lord's instruction, my son, and do not loathe his discipline; for the Lord disciplines the one he loves, just as a father disciplines the son in whom he delights." -Proverbs 3:11-12

As you reflect on how you were raised, what are some things you appreciate about receiving direction and discipline from your parents and elders now that you are an adult?

*Not allowing me to do _____ I wanted.

*Teaching me _____ from _____.

Context: This is an ongoing dialogue between King Solomon and his son. In this section he encourages him to embrace mercy and truth since it leads to enjoying the fruits of wisdom. From there he discusses how we should treat other people. Can you see yourself teaching and sharing these valuable lessons to your children?

● Trusting the Lord: Proverbs 3:1-12

As children, our first demonstration of faith in the Lord is reflected in how we respond to our parents. What does Solomon tell his son and why?

*Don't forget my _____, but let your heart keep my _____.

➤ These are principles that God gave through Solomon to share with his children.

Reason: They will bring you _____ days of full _____ and well being.

*Never let _____ and _____ leave you.

*Tie them around your _____;

*Write them on the tablet of your _____.

➤ Other translations say, mercy and truth.

Reason: Then you will find _____ and high regard with _____ and _____.

*Trust in the _____ with all of your _____; and do not rely on your own understanding.

*In _____ of your ways know him,

Reason: and he will make your paths _____.

*Don't be _____ in your own eyes,

*Fear the Lord and turn _____ from evil.

Reason: This will be _____ for your body and _____ for your bones.

*Honor the Lord with your _____ and with the first produce of your entire harvest.

Reason: then your vats will _____ with new wine.

*Do not despise the Lord's instruction, my son, and do not loathe his _____.

Reason: the Lord disciplines the one he _____.

As you reflect on the simplicity of this discipline and instruction; why is it so challenging for parents to discipline and instruct our children in this manner today? What can be done to change these things?

Cross reference: Hebrews 12:7-11

● Tapping into Wisdom: Proverbs 3:13-26

After reading the following verses, what are the benefits of wisdom?

* _____ is the man who finds wisdom and who acquires understanding.

*She is more _____ than silver and her revenue is better than gold.

*She is more _____ than jewels, nothing you desire can equal her.

*Long _____ is in her right hand; in her left, _____ and _____.

*Her ways are _____ and all her paths, _____.

*She is a tree of life to who _____ her, and those who _____ on to her are happy.

How can one be confident they can depend on wisdom?

Cross references: Proverbs 3:19-20

What does Solomon teach his son about wisdom and why?

*Exercise _____ wisdom and discretion.

Reasons:

*They will be life for you and _____ for your neck.

*Go _____ on your way;

*Your foot will not _____.

*When you lie down you will not be _____.

*You will sleep _____.

*Don't fear sudden danger or ruin of the _____ when it comes.

*For the Lord will be your confidence and keep your foot from a _____.

How could you use these verses with someone who is struggling making good decisions?

● Treating others Respectfully: Proverbs 3:27-35

What does Solomon teach his son about dealing with others?

*Don't _____ good from the one to whom it belongs.

What are some ways we can withhold good from those who deserve it?

Cross references: Proverbs 3:28; James 2:15-17

*Don't plan _____ against your neighbor.

Reason: He trusts you and _____ near you.

"Treat others the way you want to be treated."

More teaching on dealing with others...

*Don't accuse anyone without _____, when he has done you no harm.

*Don't envy a violent man or choose any of his ways. Psalm 37:1

Reasons: The devious are _____ to the Lord, but he is a friend to the upright.

*The Lord's curse is on the household of the _____, but he blesses the home of the _____.

*He _____ those who _____, but gives grace to the humble.

*The wise will inherit honor, but he holds up _____ to _____.

As you consider the wicked and the righteous, the wise and fools, which one would you like to be and why?

What is one thing you learned that you are willing to share with someone else?

"A wise man can learn more from a foolish question than a fool can learn from a wise answer."