

Fathers - Point to Wisdom and Understanding

- *Proverbs 4:1-9 – Hear, my children the instruction of a father, And give attention to know understanding; For I give you good doctrine: Do not forsake my law. When I was my father’s son, tender and the only one in the sight of my mother, He also taught me, and said to me: “Let your heart retain my words; Keep my commands, and live. Get wisdom! Get understanding! Do not forget, nor turn away from the words of my mouth. Do not forsake her, and she will preserve you; Love her, and she will keep you. Wisdom is the principle thing; Therefore get wisdom. And in your getting, get understanding. Exalt her, and she will promote you; She will bring you honor, when you embrace her. She will place on your head an ornament of grace; A crown of glory she will deliver to you.*

1. He Teaches

Understanding – binyah – ability to separate or discern between two things

Wisdom – chokmah – ability to process truths of God and apply them.

Solomon Parents Like His Father

- a. **Children are to learn**
- *Hear, [my] children, the instruction of a father,*
- b. **Live mindfully, not mindlessly**
- *And give attention to know understanding;*
- c. **Teach God’s Word, not your own**
- *2 For I give you good doctrine: Do not forsake my law.*
- d. **Start teaching early or right now, do not wait**
- *3 When I was my father's son, Tender and the only one in the sight of my mother, 4 he also taught me,*
- Only in the sight of his mother?
 - because of failure with Adonijah and Absalom?
 - because Solomon showed evidence of godliness?
- i. Solomon chose wisdom over anything else
- ii. Solomon valued his father’s wisdom even though he was so wise
- *2 Ch. 1:7-10 - 7 On that night God appeared to Solomon, and said to him, “Ask! What shall I give you?”8 And Solomon said to God: “You have shown great mercy to David my father, and have made me king in his place. 9 Now, O Lord God, let Your promise to David my father be established, for You have made me king over a people like the dust of the earth in multitude. 10 Now give me wisdom and knowledge, that I may go out and come in before this people; for who can judge this great people of Yours?”*

- *1Ki 4:29-31 - 29 And God gave Solomon wisdom and exceedingly great understanding, and largeness of heart like the sand on the seashore. 30 Thus Solomon's wisdom excelled the wisdom of all the men of the East and all the wisdom of Egypt. 31 For he was wiser than all men--than Ethan the Ezrahite, and Heman, Chalcol, and Darda, the sons of Mahol; and his fame was in all the surrounding nations.*

2. His Desire is Application

- a. **Save your father’s teachings**
- *and said to me: “Let your heart retain my words;*
- b. **Follow his commands and live a life walking with God**
- *Keep my commands, and live.*
- **3. He focused on the important things**
- a. **Study God’s Truth and Apply It**
 - (David is anxious that Solomon get these things)
 - Wisdom comes from God (Job 28:12-28) and the opposite of wisdom, foolishness, is being godless
- *Ps. 14:1 - The fool has said in his heart, “There is no God.” They are corrupt, they have done abominable works, there is none who does good.*
- *5 Get wisdom!*
- b. **See Right From Wrong**
- *Get understanding! Do not forget, nor turn away from the words of my mouth.*
- c. **Do Not Leave Behind Your Guide**
- *6 Do not forsake her, and she will preserve you;*
- d. **Cherish the Principles of a Godly Life**
- *Love her, and she will keep you. 7 Wisdom [is] the principal thing; [Therefore] get wisdom. And in all your getting, get understanding.*
- e. **Make wisdom a priority and God will bless you**
- i. Solomon chose wisdom over anything else
- *8 Exalt her, and she will promote you; She will bring you honor, when you embrace her. 9 She will place on your head an ornament of grace; A crown of glory she will deliver to you.”*
- ii. We typically chose the trivial
- *1 Sam 2:30 ...But now the Lord says: ‘Far be it from Me; for those who honor Me I will honor, and those who despise Me shall be lightly esteemed.*