

Wisdom for Families (Summer Wisdom 2016)

Introduction

- If you want to change the world go home and love your family (Mother Teresa)
- All that I am or ever hope to be, I owe to my angel mother (Abraham Lincoln)
- Many men can make a fortune but very few can build a family (JS Byan)

Wisdom/proverbs do not necessarily teach us to distinguish foolish words from the word of righteousness but to teach us how to rely upon wise teachers. Thus, the issue, then, is not which words are reliable but whose words are reliable (NICOT).

Wise Families Build (14:1)

- Are you a builder?
- A wise parent, man, woman builds their house. She contributes and builds a house that provides safety, security, emotional stability, love, communication and offers spiritual well-being (NICOT)
 - But it is not enough to build. For if we build in our own strength we will eventually fail and fall. Even worse, if we build in our strength or with our vision our children fail because we have failed them.
 - Rather... we build upon the Rock
 - **Matt. 7:24** “Therefore, everyone who hears these words of Mine and acts on them will be like a sensible man who built his house on the rock. ²⁵ The rain fell, the rivers rose, and the winds blew and pounded that house. Yet it didn’t collapse, because its foundation was on the rock. ²⁶ But everyone who hears these words of Mine and doesn’t act on them will be like a foolish man who built his house on the sand. ²⁷ The rain fell, the rivers rose, the winds blew and pounded that house, and it collapsed. And its collapse was great!”
 - When you build on Christ the storms of life are no match.
 - When you build on Christ you avoid collapse
 - Give them a great home/financial security and watch the collapse
 - Give them a great education and watch the collapse
 - Give them great vacations... tour the world and watch the collapse

- But give the Christ...!
 - “It is easier to build a boy than to mend a man”
- Are you a builder?

- **Remember not to build alone**
- Wise woman plural// foolish one singular
 - May suggest that the wise live in community and produce many fine households to live in the land, but the intractable and morally senseless woman lives alone, and at the end of the day her house is gone.
- God’s Word challenges us to build TOGETHER.
 - Do not forsake the assembling of yourselves together (Heb. 10:25)
 - You are the body of Christ, that has many individual members, but being many are one body, so also is Christ.
 - One of the greatest lies for the Christian is that you can do it ALONE.
 - You need community. You were created in community (Triune God)
 - Are you in a life group? Are you serving with others?
- Wise families build together
- **Foolish Families Destroy and Harass**
 - תְּהַרְסֵנּוּ the Hebrew word for pull down/ destroy/ sounds like the English “harass”
 - If you harass others you will only bring destruction into your life
 - Part of harassment and destruction is denying the daily grace that we are so freely given.
 - It could assume the foolish destroys whatever house she received through God’s common grace, or, most probably before she apostatized.
- Are you a builder?
 - Our Savior was a carpenter... a builder... and he continues to build you up.

Wise Families Dedicate (22:6)

- Families have an obligation and duty to train each other for Godliness
- What does it mean to train?
 - It means to dedicate. The same word used here for train is the same word used in the dedication of a house or the dedication of a temple
 - So what is dedication? It means that we devote ourselves to the Lord. Devotion takes time, effort, intentionality.
 - Are you devoting your life to the Lord? Have you devoted today to the Lord?
 - We have a duty to train.
- What do we train for?
 - We train others for the Lord.
 - Teach a youth about the way...

- Clearly over and over again in Proverbs, there is only ONE right path and correct way. This is emphasized in John 14:6 when Jesus declares He is the way.
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- **What happens if you trained your family and they have strayed?**
 - **This proverb should not be a sledgehammer of guilt nor a source of arrogant pride**
 - More like a twig bender principle.
 - *This proverb does not guarantee a child will never stray. Rather, give them Christ and you cannot go wrong*

Wise Families Discipline (13:24)

- This proverb has several assumptions
 1. The home is the basic social unit for transforming values
 2. Parents have absolute values not merely valuations
 3. Folly is bound up in the heart of a child
 4. It will take more than “just words” to mold a child (NICOT)
- The biblical method of rearing is loving the child, which entails strict discipline and valuing him or her as a gift from God (NICOT)
- When we fail to discipline we perpetuate wrong behavior and mistaken beliefs (Longman)
- More harm is done to a child by withholding discipline than applying it (Longman).
- Here the discipline in mind is physical. This does not advocate any type of abuse. Rather, the failure to discipline a child is equated to child abuse (Longman).

6 for the Lord disciplines the one He loves and punishes every son He receives. Heb. 12:7 Endure suffering as discipline: God is dealing with you as sons. For what son is there that a father does not discipline?

Conclusion

- Do you Fear Him?
- Do you know the LORD
- Are you foolish for the sake of Jesus Christ?
- **May we seek wisdom and find Jesus**

- **You can put your faith in Jesus right were you sit**
- Opportunity to respond publically
 - Come forward
 - Connection card.. we will follow up and encourage you

Why does it Matter?

- We have been justified (made right before the Lord) and accepted
- We receive forgiveness (redeemed)
- We escape God's wrath (reconciled)
- We are adopted in to a new family
- We gain a new identity (New Creation)
- **Believe, Confess, Faith, Baptism**

Notes

Prov. 14:1 Every wise woman builds her house,
but a foolish one tears it down with her own hands.

Prov. 14:1 תְּכַמֹּת גַּשְׁמִים בְּנִתָּהּ בֵּיתָהּ וְאִזְלֹת בְּיָדֶיהָ תִּהְרָסֶנּוּ:

- A wise parent, man, woman builds. She contributes to and regulates the material and spiritual well-being of the household (NICOT)
- Wise woman plural// foolish one singular
 - May suggest that the wise live in community and produce many fine households to live in the land, but the intractable and morally senseless woman lives alone, and at the end of the day her house is gone.
- Destroys
 - It could assume the foolish destroys whatever house she received through God's common grace, or, most probably before she apostatized.
- **Matt. 7:24** “Therefore, everyone who hears these words of Mine and acts on them will be like a sensible man who built his house on the rock. ²⁵ The rain fell, the rivers rose, and the winds blew and pounded that house. Yet it didn't collapse, because its foundation was on the rock. ²⁶ But everyone who hears these words of Mine and doesn't act on them will be like a foolish man who built his house on the sand. ²⁷ The rain fell, the rivers rose, the winds blew and pounded that house, and it collapsed. And its collapse was great!”

Prov. 22:6 Teach a youth about the way he should go;
even when he is old he will not depart from it.

6 חֲנֹךְ לַנְּעָר עַל-פִּי דַרְכּוֹ גַם כִּי-יִזְקֵן לֹא-יִסּוֹר מִמֶּנּוּ:

- ““dedicate a youth according to what his way dictates; even when he becomes old, he will not depart from it”
- Here his way dictates the orientation of his dedication (NICOT).
- The proverb must not be pushed to mean that the educator is ultimately responsible for the youth's entire moral orientation (NICOT).
- The stress is on parental obligation and duty (TOTC)

- Train= same word used to dedicate house or a temple
- Clearly over and over again in Proverbs, there is only ONE right path and correct way. This is emphasized in John 14:6 when Jesus declares He is the way.
- How do we understand the second colon? Is it a promise? A proverb does not give a promise.
 - More like a twig bender principle.
 - This proverb does not guarantee a child will never stray. Rather, give them Christ and you cannot go wrong
 - **This proverb should not be a sledgehammer of guilt nor a source of arrogant pride**
- “way he should go” literally = the beginning of his way” (NIV).

Prov. 13:24 The one who will not use the rod hates his son,
but the one who loves him disciplines him diligently.

4 • חוֹשֵׁף לְשִׁבְטוֹ שׁוֹנֵא בְּנֵוֹ אֶהָבֹוּ שְׁתָּרוּ מוֹסֵר

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- the uses of “musar” throughout this chapter and the similar sayings make it clear that the issue of one of instruction, not the means used to bring it about (NIV).
- The Lord’s pedagogic motive of live and method of measured punishment (see Rev. 3:19 and Heb 12:7)
- Loving parents seek to correct the faults of their children because, as the preceding unit showed, their children’s lives, favor, protection, dignity, and prosperity are at stake.
- This proverb has several assumptions
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Illustrations

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Application

- The only way to separate yourself from your sin is to trust in Jesus.

the expositor (NAC)