

God's Wisdom for Our Lives – Week 23
The Wise Son or Daughter – Maturing In Reference to God

Warm-Up:

1. Consider two of the primary responsibilities parents have in reference to their children: Instruct them, and discipline them...
 - a. What's the difference between those two responsibilities?
 - b. How are they related?
 - c. How are they both designed for the good of sons and daughters?
2. If the Lord expects parents to instruct and discipline their children, what does He expect of sons and daughters?
3. What command provides the foundation for this relationship?
4. If God commands sons and daughters to honor their father and mother, who are they obeying when they receive instruction and discipline from their parents?
 - a. Who are they rejecting when they do not receive discipline and instruction from their parents?

Read Prov 13:1... "A wise son accepts his father's discipline, but a scoffer does not listen to a rebuke."
& Prov 12:1... "Whoever loves discipline loves knowledge, but he who hates reproof is stupid"

5. According to proverbs 13:1, what does a wise son or daughter do?
 - a. How do you "accept" your parent's discipline?
 - a. Why is it often hard for us to receive discipline/correction? (Hebrews 12:11-13)
6. What does it mean to be a "scoffer"?
 - a. What does the arrogant scoffer do in Prov 13:1?
 - i. What is a rebuke?
 - i. What would it look like to listen to a rebuke instead of being the scoffer?
7. Consider Proverbs 12:1... what does it mean to "love discipline"?
 - a. Why does loving discipline result in loving knowledge or wisdom?
8. What does it mean to "hate reproof"?
9. How does Proverbs 12:1 describe the one who hates reproof?

Read Prov 13:18... "Poverty and disgrace come to him who ignores instruction, but whoever heeds reproof is honored."

& Prov 15:32... "Whoever ignores instruction despises himself, but he who listens to reproof gains intelligence"

10. According to Proverbs 13:18, what happens to one who ignores instruction?
11. Practically speaking, how can "poverty and disgrace come to him who ignores instruction"?
12. On the other hand, what awaits the one who heeds reproof?
13. According to Proverbs 15:32, who suffers when you ignore instruction?
14. How are these verses related to the commandment and promise of Deuteronomy 5:16?
 - a. How do these texts show God's wisdom and love for you in the command to honor your parents?

Read Proverbs 15:20... "A wise son makes glad a father, but a foolish man despises his mother"?

15. Consider how you've been relating to your parents in the area of their discipline and instruction...
 - a. Are you obeying and honoring the Lord in the way that you obey and honor them?
 - b. Are you making their duty to train you up and discipline you a joy? Or a grief?
 - c. If you have been sinning in this area, confess this to your parents and ask for forgiveness.
 - d. Thank your parents for the ways they are faithful in instructing and disciplining you according to God's design.