

Text: Proverbs

1. Make Your Kids <u>Listen</u> - and Do What You <u>Do!</u> (*Proverbs 3:1-4*)

3:1-4My son, do not forget my teaching, but let your heart keep my commandments,

² for length of days and years of life and peace they will add to you.

³ Let not steadfast love and faithfulness forsake you; bind them around your neck; write them on the tablet of your heart.

⁴ So you will find favor and good success in the sight of God and man.

2. Don't Let 'Em Get Above Their Raising! (16:18)

16:18 Pride goes before destruction, and a haughty spirit before a fall

3. They are Who They Run With! (BTW, Sometimes It's a Backslidden Christian.) (1:10-16)

1:10 My son, if sinners entice you, do not consent.

¹¹ If they say, "Come with us, let us lie in wait for blood; let us ambush the innocent without reason;

¹² like Sheol let us swallow them alive, and whole, like those who go down to the pit;

¹³ we shall find all precious goods, we shall fill our houses with plunder;

14 throw in your lot among us; we will all have one purse"—

¹⁵ my son, do not walk in the way with them; hold back your foot from their paths,

¹⁶ for their feet run to evil, and they make haste to shed blood.

4. Allow Them to Face Consequences & Criticism (22:15; 20:11; 17:10)

22:15 Folly is bound up in the heart of a child, but the rod of discipline drives it far from him.

20:11 Even a child makes himself known by his acts, by whether his conduct is pure and upright.

^{17:10} A rebuke goes deeper into a man of understanding than a hundred blows into a

5. Teach Them to Be Quick to <u>Listen</u> - Slow to <u>Speak</u> (16:23: 17:7, 27; 18:2)

16:23 The heart of the wise makes his speech judicious and adds persuasiveness to his lips.

17:7 Fine speech is not becoming to a fool; still less is false speech to a prince.

²⁷ Whoever restrains his words has knowledge, and he who has a cool spirit is a man of understanding.

18:2 A fool takes no pleasure in understanding, but only in expressing his opinion.

6. Biblical Wisdom (AKA Common Sense) Will Drive Away Anxiety & Depression (13:15; 19:11)

13:15 Good sense wins favor, but the way of the treacherous is their ruin.

19:11 Good sense makes one slow to anger, and it is his glory to overlook an offense.

IF THE LORD DELIGHTS IN A MAN'S WAY, HE MAKES HIS STEPS FIRM; THOUGH HE STUMBLES, HE WILL NOT FALL, FOR THE LORD UPHOLDS HIM WITH HIS HAND.

~Psalm 37: 23-24