Solomon's Proverbs
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This author is thankful a Christian businessman and dean of a business school with a D.B.A. told him in his late teens that a young man applying Proverbs’ wisdom could prosper and succeed in the business world like picking fruit from a tree, which he proved true for eight years in banking in the 70’s and 80’s. [SRC, 1976].
What is Proverbs?

• Important part of God’s library
• One of the 66 books of the Bible
• Deals with every part of your life
• God’s wisdom for your success
• Always relevant – always profitable
What is a Proverb?

- A short pithy (meaningful) saying
- A concise sentence often metaphorical
- In common and recognized use
- To express some truth about life
- Often obscure needing explanation
Common American Proverbs

- Honesty is the best policy
- Discretion is the better part of valor
- Cleanliness is next to godliness
- Curiosity killed the cat
- Love is blind
- Birds of a feather flock together
- Opportunity knocks only once
- Kill two birds with one stone
- A burned child dreads the fire
• As is the mother, so is her daughter
• Is Saul also among the prophets?
• Wickedness proceedeth from the wicked
• Evil communications corrupt good manners
• The days are prolonged, and every vision faileth
• The days are at hand, and the effect of every vision
• The fathers have eaten sour grapes, and the children’s teeth are set on edge
• Woe to him that increaseth that which is not his!
• Physician, heal thyself
• The love of money is the root of all evil
• Do unto others as you would have them do unto you
Who is Solomon?

- Son of David
- King of Israel
- Very wise and wealthy
- Inspired by God to study and write
- Diligently researched success in life
King Solomon

David’s Son
King of Israel
Wisest King
Richest King
Curious King
Inspired King
1000 Wives
What Is the Value?

- Greatest king as your personal advisor
- Advice given by King Solomon to his son
- Jehovah God sharing inspired wisdom
- Give you understanding for prosperity
- Save you from pain and trouble in life
- Give you perfect answers for others
Why Proverbs?

- To know wisdom and instruction
- To learn justice, judgment, and equity
- Knowledge / discretion for young men
- To increase your understanding of life
- To convey truth of God and godliness
Why Proverbs?

- They are interesting sayings
- They are fun to figure out
- They are how wise men give advice
- They have more than meets the eye
- They are short and can be remembered
How to learn Proverbs?

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Chapter 31
How to learn Proverbs?

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CHAPTER 8

1 ¶ Doth not wisdom cry? and understanding put forth her voice?  
2 She standeth in the top of high places, by the way in the places of the paths.  
3 She crieth at the gates, at the entry of the city, at the coming in at the doors.  
4 Unto you, O men, I call; and my voice is to the sons of man.  
5 O ye simple, understand wisdom: and, ye fools, be ye of an understanding heart.  
6 Hear; for I will speak of excellent things; and the opening of my lips shall be right things.  
7 For my mouth shall speak truth; and wickedness is an abomination to my lips.  
8 All the words of my mouth are in righteousness; there is nothing froward or perverse in them.  
9 They are all plain to him that understandeth, and right to them that find knowledge.  
10Receive my instruction, and not silver; and knowledge rather than choice gold.  
11 For wisdom is better than rubies; and all the things that may be desired are not to be compared to it.  
12 ¶ I wisdom dwell with prudence, and find out knowledge of witty inventions.  
13 The fear of the LORD is to hate evil: pride, and arrogancy, and the evil way, and the froward mouth, do I hate.  
14 Counsel is mine, and sound wisdom: I am understanding; I have strength.  
15 By me kings reign, and princes decree justice.  
16 By me princes rule, and nobles, even all the judges of the earth.  
17 I love them that love me; and those that seek me early shall find me.  
18 Riches and honour are with me; yea, durable riches and righteousness.  
19 My fruit is better than gold, yea, than fine gold; and my revenue than choice silver.  
20 I lead in the way of righteousness, in the midst of the paths of judgment:  
21 That I may cause those that love me to inherit substance; and I will fill their treasures.  
22 ¶ The LORD possessed me in the beginning of his way, before his works of old.  
23 I was set up from everlasting, from the beginning, or ever the earth was.  
24 When there were no depths, I was brought forth; when there were no fountains abounding with water.  
25 Before the mountains were settled, before the hills was I brought forth:  
26 While as yet he had not made the earth, nor the fields, nor the highest part of the dust of the world.  
27 When he prepared the heavens, I was there: when he set a compass upon the face of the depth:  
28 When he established the clouds above: when he strengthened the fountains of the deep:  
29 When he gave to the sea his decree, that the waters should not pass his commandment: when he appointed the foundations of the earth:  
30 ¶ Was by him, as one brought up with him: and I was daily his delight, rejoicing always before him;  
31 Rejoicing in the habitable part of his earth; and my delights were with the sons of men.  
32 ¶ Now therefore hearken unto me, O ye children: for blessed are they that keep my ways.  
33 Hear instruction, and be wise, and refuse it not.  
34 Blessed is the man that heareth me, watching daily at my gates, waiting at the posts of my doors.  
35 For whoso findeth me findeth life, and shall obtain favour of the LORD.  
36 But he that sinneth against me wrongeth his own soul: all they that hate me love death.
Are You Bored Yet?

Chapter – verse approach is not the best

It looks like a data dump without value

Of course, wise men study anyway

Can it be presented a little better?

God wrote about each part of your life!

Is your life important?
Proverbs Another Way

Money  CHARACTER  Marriage
SEX
SPEECH  Business  Women
Success  Priorities
Food / Drink  Religion  CHILDREN
Money

Earning it

Keeping it

Saving it

Spending it

Giving it

Investing it

Loaning it

Loving it
“He becometh poor that dealeth with a slack hand: but the hand of the diligent maketh rich.”

Proverbs 10:4

“Whoso keepeth the fig tree shall eat the fruit thereof: so he that waiteth on his master shall be honoured.”

Proverbs 27:18
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Proverbs 27:18
Earning Money

“In all labour there is profit: but the talk of the lips tendeth only to penury.”
Proverbs 14:23

“He that tilleth his land shall have plenty of bread: but he that followeth after vain persons shall have poverty enough.”
Proverbs 28:19
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Earning Money

“Love not sleep, lest thou come to poverty; open thine eyes, and thou shalt be satisfied with bread.”
Proverbs 20:13

“Yet a little sleep, a little slumber, a little folding of the hands to sleep: So shall thy poverty come as one that travelleth; and thy want as an armed man.”
Proverbs 24:33-34
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Proverbs 24:33-34
“The soul of the sluggard desireth, and hath nothing: but the soul of the diligent shall be made fat.”

Proverbs 13:4

“The thoughts of the diligent tend only to plenteousness; but of every one that is hasty only to want.”

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“For the drunkard and the glutton shall come to poverty: and drowsiness shall clothe a man with rags.”
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"A gracious woman retaineth honour: and strong men retain riches."
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“He that tilleth his land shall be satisfied with bread: but he that followeth vain persons is void of understanding.”
Proverbs 12:11
Keeping Money

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“Much food is in the tillage of the poor: but there is that is destroyed for want of judgment.”

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“Be not thou one of them that strike hands, or of them that are sureties for debts. If thou hast nothing to pay, why should he take away thy bed from under thee?”

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Proverbs 22:26-27
Saving Money

“Go to the ant, thou sluggard; consider her ways, and be wise: Which having no guide, overseer, or ruler, Provideth her meat in the summer, and gathereth her food in the harvest.”

Proverbs 6:6-8

“The ants are a people not strong, yet they prepare their meat in the summer;”

Proverbs 30:25
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“There is treasure to be desired and oil in the dwelling of the wise; but a foolish man spendeth it up.”

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Proverbs 3:9-10

“He that hath pity upon the poor lendeth unto the LORD; and that which he hath given will he pay him again.”

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Investing Money

“The simple believeth every word: but the prudent man looketh well to his going.”

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“Where no oxen are, the crib is clean: but much increase is by the strength of the ox.”

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Proverbs 31:16

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Proverbs 31:24
Loaning Money

“He that is surety for a stranger shall smart for it: and he that hateth suretiship is sure.”
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“A man void of understanding striketh hands, and becometh surety in the presence of his friend.”
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Proverbs 17:18
Loving Money

“He that is greedy of gain troubleth his own house; but he that hateth gifts shall live.”

Proverbs 15:27

“Remove far from me vanity and lies: give me neither poverty nor riches; feed me with food convenient for me:”

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Proverbs 30:8
“He that hasteth to be rich hath an evil eye, and considereth not that poverty shall come upon him.”

Proverbs 28:22

“Labour not to be rich: cease from thine own wisdom. Wilt thou set thine eyes upon that which is not? for riches certainly make themselves wings; they fly away as an eagle toward heaven.”

Proverbs 23:4-5
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Proverbs 23:4-5
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Generous
Temperate
Virtuous
Fear of God
Chaste
“A gracious woman retaineth honour: and strong men retain riches.”

Proverbs 11:16

“He that loveth pureness of heart, for the grace of his lips the king shall be his friend.”

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Proverbs 11:16

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Proverbs 22:11
“The wisdom of the prudent is to understand his way: but the folly of fools is deceit” (14:8).

“A prudent man foreseeth the evil, and hideth himself: but the simple pass on, and are punished” (22:3).

“House and riches are the inheritance of fathers: and a prudent wife is from the LORD” (19:14).
Prudent

“The wisdom of the prudent is to understand his way: but the folly of fools is deceit” (14:8).

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“Lying lips are abomination to the LORD: but they that deal truly are his delight.”
Proverbs 12:22

“These six things doth the LORD hate: yea, seven are an abomination unto him: A proud look, a lying tongue, and hands that shed innocent blood, An heart that deviseth wicked imaginations, feet that be swift in running to mischief, false witness that speaketh lies, and he that soweth discord among brethren” (6:16-19).
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Honest

“Lying lips are abomination to the LORD: but they that deal truly are his delight.”
Proverbs 12:22

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“A friend loveth at all times, and a brother is born for adversity” (17:17).

“A man that hath friends must shew himself friendly: and there is a friend that sticketh closer than a brother.”
Proverbs 18:24
“Faithful are the wounds of a friend; but the kisses of an enemy are deceitful” (27:6).

“Ointment and perfume rejoice the heart: so doth the sweetness of a man’s friend by hearty counsel” (27:9).

“Thine own friend, and thy father’s friend, forsake not; neither go into thy brother’s house in the day of thy calamity: for better is a neighbour that is near than a brother far off” (27:10).
“A talebearer revealeth secrets: but he that is of a faithful spirit concealeth the matter” (11:13).

“Most men will proclaim every one his own goodness: but a faithful man who can find?” (20:6).

“As the cold of snow in the time of harvest, so is a faithful messenger to them that send him: for he refresheth the soul of his masters” (25:13).
“A righteous man regardeth the life of his beast: but the tender mercies of the wicked are cruel” (12:10).

“The merciful man doeth good to his own soul: but he that is cruel troubleth his own flesh” (11:17).
“The liberal soul shall be made fat: and he that watereth shall be watered also himself” (11:25).

“He that withholdeth corn, the people shall curse him: but blessing shall be upon the head of him that selleth it” (11:26).

“He that giveth unto the poor shall not lack: but he that hideth his eyes shall have many a curse” (28:27).
“When thou sittest to eat with a ruler, consider diligently what is before thee: And put a knife to thy throat, if thou be a man given to appetite” (23:1-2).

“Be not among winebibbers; among riotous eaters of flesh: For the drunkard and the glutton shall come to poverty: and drowsiness shall clothe a man with rags” (23:20-21).

“Love not sleep, lest thou come to poverty; open thine eyes, and thou shalt be satisfied with bread” (20:13).
“A virtuous woman is a crown to her husband: but she that maketh ashamed is as rottenness in his bones.”
Proverbs 12:4

“Who can find a virtuous woman? for her price is far above rubies.”
Proverbs 31:30
“The fear of the LORD is the beginning of knowledge: but fools despise wisdom and instruction” (1:7).

“The fear of the LORD is to hate evil: pride, and arrogancy, and the evil way, and the froward mouth, do I hate” (8:13).

“The fear of the LORD tendeth to life: and he that hath it shall abide satisfied; he shall not be visited with evil” (19:23).
Chaste

“Lust not after her beauty in thine heart; neither let her take thee with her eyelids” (6:25).

“Remove thy way far from her, and come not nigh the door of her house” (5:8).

“The thought of foolishness is sin: and the scorner is an abomination to men” (24:9).
Marriage

Find a wife

An odious wife

A whorish wife

A perfect wife

Sharing kids
Find a Wife

“Who can find a virtuous woman? for her price is far above rubies” (31:10).

“Whoso findeth a wife findeth a good thing, and obtaineth favour of the LORD “(18:22).

“House and riches are the inheritance of fathers: and a prudent wife is from the LORD” (19:14).
An Odious Wife

“For three things the earth is disquieted, and for four which it cannot bear ... an odious woman when she is married” (30:21-23).

“A virtuous woman is a crown to her husband: but she that maketh ashamed is as rottenness in his bones” (12:4).

“A foolish son is the calamity of his father: and the contentions of a wife are a continual dropping” (19:13).
A Whorish Wife

“And, behold, there met him a woman with the attire of an harlot, and subtil of heart. (She is loud and stubborn; her feet abide not in her house: Now is she without, now in the streets, and lieth in wait at every corner.)”

Proverbs 7:10-12

“Come, let us take our fill of love until the morning: let us solace ourselves with loves. For the goodman is not at home, he is gone a long journey: He hath taken a bag of money with him, and will come home at the day appointed” (7:18-20).
“Her children arise up, and call her blessed; her husband also, and he praiseth her. Many daughters have done virtuously, but thou excellest them all. Favour is deceitful, and beauty is vain: but a woman that feareth the LORD, she shall be praised” (31:28-30).
“Let thy fountains be dispersed abroad, and rivers of waters in the streets. Let them be only thine own, and not strangers’ with thee. Let thy fountain be blessed: and rejoice with the wife of thy youth” (5:16-18).

“Children’s children are the crown of old men; and the glory of children are their fathers” (17:6).
Before Marriage

“For at the window of my house I looked through my casement, And beheld among the simple ones, I discerned among the youths, a young man void of understanding, Passing through the street near her corner; and he went the way to her house, In the twilight, in the evening, in the black and dark night:” (7:6-9).

“Give not thy strength unto women, nor thy ways to that which destroyeth kings” (31:3).
Without Marriage

“And why wilt thou, my son, be ravished with a strange woman, and embrace the bosom of a stranger?” (5:20).

“My son, give me thine heart, and let thine eyes observe my ways. For a whore is a deep ditch; and a strange woman is a narrow pit. She also lieth in wait as for a prey, and increaseth the transgressors among men” (23:26-28).
In Marriage

“Drink waters out of thine own cistern, and running waters out of thine own well” (5:15).

“Let her be as the loving hind and pleasant roe; let her breasts satisfy thee at all times; and be thou ravished always with her love” (5:19).
In Marriage

“Who can find a virtuous woman? for her price is far above rubies. The heart of her husband doth safely trust in her, so that he shall have no need of spoil. She will do him good and not evil all the days of her life” (31:10-12).
“Whoso is simple, let him turn in hither: and as for him that wanteth understanding, she saith to him, Stolen waters are sweet, and bread eaten in secret is pleasant. But he knoweth not that the dead are there; and that her guests are in the depths of hell.”

Proverbs 9:16-18
“Let not thine heart decline to her ways, go not astray in her paths. For she hath cast down many wounded: yea, many strong men have been slain by her. Her house is the way to hell, going down to the chambers of death.”

Proverbs 7:25-27
Fantasies

“Lust not after her beauty in thine heart; neither let her take thee with her eyelids” (6:25)

“The thought of foolishness is sin: and the scorners is an abomination to men.”

Proverbs 24:9

“Let her be as the loving hind and pleasant roe; let her breasts satisfy thee at all times; and be thou ravished always with her love” (5:19).
“Favour is deceitful, and beauty is vain: but a woman that feareth the LORD, she shall be praised” (31:30).

“Most men will proclaim every one his own goodness: but a faithful man who can find?” (20:6).

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Relationships

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Gossip

“The north wind driveth away rain: so doth an angry countenance a backbiting tongue” (25:23).

“A talebearer revealeth secrets: but he that is of a faithful spirit concealleth the matter” (11:13).

“A froward man soweth strife: and a whisperer separateth chief friends.”

Proverbs 16:28
Gossip

“Debate thy cause with thy neighbour himself; and discover not a secret to another:” (25:9).

“He that goeth about as a talebearer revealeth secrets: therefore meddle not with him that flattereth with his lips.” Proverbs 20:19
“Where no wood is, there the fire goeth out: so where there is no talebearer, the strife ceaseth. As coals are to burning coals, and wood to fire; so is a contentious man to kindle strife. The words of a talebearer are as wounds, and they go down into the innermost parts of the belly” (26-20-22).
Lying

“The lip of truth shall be established for ever: but a lying tongue is but for a moment” (12:19).

“A lying tongue hateth those that are afflicted by it; and a flattering mouth worketh ruin” (26:28).

“A false witness shall not be unpunished, and he that speaketh lies shall perish.”

Proverbs 19:9
“He that hath knowledge spareth his words: and a man of understanding is of an excellent spirit” (17:27).

“Even a fool, when he holdeth his peace, is counted wise: and he that shutteth his lips is esteemed a man of understanding” (17:28).

“In the multitude of words there wanteth not sin: but he that refraineth his lips is wise” (10:19).
“Seest thou a man that is hasty in his words? there is more hope of a fool than of him” (29:20).

“A fool uttereth all his mind: but a wise man keepeth it in till afterwards” (29:11).

“He that is slow to wrath is of great understanding: but he that is hasty of spirit exalteth folly” (14:29).
Studied

“The heart of the righteous studieth to answer: but the mouth of the wicked poureth out evil things” (15:28).

“The tongue of the wise useth knowledge aright: but the mouth of fools poureth out foolishness” (15:2).

“The heart of the wise teacheth his mouth, and addeth learning to his lips.”
Proverbs 16:23
“Bow down thine ear, and hear the words of the wise, and apply thine heart unto my knowledge. For it is a pleasant thing if thou keep them within thee; they shall withal be fitted in thy lips. That thy trust may be in the LORD, I have made known to thee this day, even to thee. Have not I written to thee excellent things in counsels and knowledge, That I might make thee know the certainty of the words of truth; that thou mightest answer the words of truth to them that send unto thee?”

Proverbs 22:17-21
Fruitful

“A wholesome tongue is a tree of life: but perverseness therein is a breach in the spirit” (15:4).

“The lips of the righteous feed many: but fools die for want of wisdom” (10:21).

“The fruit of the righteous is a tree of life; and he that winneth souls is wise.” Proverbs 11:30
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Investment

“Where no oxen are, the crib is clean: but much increase is by the strength of the ox” (14:4).

“Prepare thy work without, and make it fit for thyself in the field; and afterwards build thine house” (24:27).

“The ants are a people not strong, yet they prepare their meat in the summer.”

Proverbs 30:25
“It is naught, it is naught, saith the buyer: but when he is gone his way, then he boasteth” (20:14).

“As a mad man who casteth firebrands, arrows, and death, So is the man that deceiveth his neighbour, and saith, Am not I in sport?” (26:18-19).
Integrity

“A just weight and balance are the LORD’S: all the weights of the bag are his work” (16:11).

“A false balance is abomination to the LORD: but a just weight is his delight.”

Proverbs 11:1

“Divers weights are an abomination unto the LORD; and a false balance is not good” (20:23).
“He that withholdeth corn, the people shall curse him: but blessing shall be upon the head of him that selleth it.”
Proverbs 11:26

“There is that scattereth, and yet increaseth; and there is that withholdeth more than is meet, but it tendeth to poverty” (11:24).
“Without counsel purposes are disappointed: but in the multitude of counsellors they are established” (11:14).

“He that is first in his own cause seemeth just; but his neighbour cometh and searcheth him” (18:17).

“Be thou diligent to know the state of thy flocks, and look well to thy herds. For riches are not for ever: and doth the crown endure to every generation?” (27:23-24).
“A prudent man foreseeth the evil, and hideth himself: but the simple pass on, and are punished” (22:3).

“The sluggard is wiser in his own conceit than seven men that can render a reason” (26:16).

“Much food is in the tillage of the poor: but there is that is destroyed for want of judgment” (13:23).
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Priorities

Fear of the Lord
Love
Peace
Wisdom
Truth
Humility
Fear of the Lord

“The fear of the LORD is the beginning of knowledge: but fools despise wisdom and instruction” (1:7).

“Better is little with the fear of the LORD than great treasure and trouble therewith” (15:16).

“By humility and the fear of the LORD are riches, and honour, and life” (22:4).
“Better is a dinner of herbs where love is, than a stalled ox and hatred therewith” (15:17).

“Open rebuke is better than secret love” (27:5).

“He that covereth a transgression seeketh love; but he that repeateth a matter separateth very friends” (17:9).
“Better is a dry morsel, and quietness therewith, than an house full of sacrifices with strife” (17:1).

“It is better to dwell in a corner of the housetop, than with a brawling woman in a wide house” (21:9).

“It is better to dwell in the wilderness, than with a contentious and an angry woman” (21:19).
Wisdom

“Happy is the man that findeth wisdom, and the man that getteth understanding”
Proverbs 3:13

“Wisdom is the principal thing; therefore get wisdom: and with all thy getting get understanding” (4:7).

“For wisdom is better than rubies; and all the things that may be desired are not to be compared to it” (8:11).
“Buy the truth, and sell it not; also wisdom, and instruction, and understanding” (23:23).

“Let not mercy and truth forsake thee: bind them about thy neck; write them upon the table of thine heart:” (3:3).

“That I might make thee know the certainty of the words of truth; that thou mightest answer the words of truth to them that send unto thee?” (22:21).
Humility

“Before destruction the heart of man is haughty, and before honour is humility.”
Proverbs 18:12

“By humility and the fear of the LORD are riches, and honour, and life” (22:4).

“Pride goeth before destruction, and an haughty spirit before a fall” (16:18).
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Children

Training

Affection

Spanking

Glory

Legitimate

Respect
“Train up a child in the way he should go: and when he is old, he will not depart from it” (22:6).

“Correct thy son, and he shall give thee rest; yea, he shall give delight unto thy soul” (29:17).

“The rod and reproof give wisdom: but a child left to himself bringeth his mother to shame” (29:15).
Affection

“For I was my father’s son, tender and only beloved in the sight of my mother.”
Proverbs 4:3

“The words of king Lemuel, the prophecy that his mother taught him. What, my son? and what, the son of my womb? and what, the son of my vows?”
Proverbs 31:1-2
Spanking

“Foolishness is bound in the heart of a child; but the rod of correction shall drive it far from him” (22:15).

“He that spareth his rod hateth his son: but he that loveth him chasteneth him betimes” (13:24).

“Chasten thy son while there is hope, and let not thy soul spare for his crying.” Proverbs 19:18
Spanking

“The rod and reproof give wisdom: but a child left to himself bringeth his mother to shame” (29:15).

“Withhold not correction from the child: for if thou beatest him with the rod, he shall not die. Thou shalt beat him with the rod, and shalt deliver his soul from hell” (23:13-14).
“Children’s children are the crown of old men; and the glory of children are their fathers” (17:6).

“A foolish son is a grief to his father, and bitterness to her that bare him” (17:25).

“The father of the righteous shall greatly rejoice: and he that begetteth a wise child shall have joy of him” (23:24).
“Let thy fountains be dispersed abroad, and rivers of waters in the streets. Let them be only thine own, and not strangers’ with thee. Let thy fountain be blessed: and rejoice with the wife of thy youth” (5:16-18).
Respect

“There is a generation that curseth their father, and doth not bless their mother” (30:11).

“Whoso curseth his father or his mother, his lamp shall be put out in obscure darkness” (20:20).

“The eye that mocketh at his father, and despiseth to obey his mother, the ravens of the valley shall pick it out, and the young eagles shall eat it” (30:17).
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