

DRIVING LESSONS

HOW TO GUIDE YOUR KIDS INTO THE WORLD THEY WILL ENTER

I. How to read (and not read) the proverbs

A. Structure of the Book of Proverbs

- Proverbs 1-9 (instructions from a parent to a child)
- Proverbs 10-31 (a collection of various wisdom sayings)
- Proverbs are general truths, not promises

B. General terms for the wise and the foolish

Wise people

Nabon - Sensible person
Yodea - Knowledgeable person
Yo'es - Advisor, planner
Hakam - Expert
Arum - Shrewd person

Fools

Ba'ar - Doofus (Proverbs 30:2)
Hasar Leb - Brainless twit
Ewil - Morally obtuse
Kesil - Imbecile
Peti - Gullible, sucker¹

II. What wisdom does God have to impart to parents? Proverbs 1-9

- Teach your child how to choose his/her friends.
- Teach your child to be honorable in their relationships.
- Teach your child the truth about financial realities.
- Teach your child the importance of sexual integrity.
- Teach your child about responsibilities and consequences.

III. Some take home thoughts

- You are the parent, you've got permission from God. You don't need your child's permission!!
- You need to learn how to cultivate an environment of TRUE grace!!
- You are your child's main discipler, not the church!!

Study Questions for August 9:

- Read Ecclesiastes all the way through this week.
- List out the questions the "Teacher" asks in Ecclesiastes 1-2. What is he asking? What kind of emotional or spiritual crisis might he be going through based on his questions?
- What are the things that the "Teacher" tries in Ecclesiastes 1:12-2:17 to find purpose in life? What was his conclusion about trying to find joy in a world void of God (Ecclesiastes 2:18-23)?
- What is the "Teacher's" ultimate conclusion about enjoying life in Ecclesiastes 2:24-26? What is the lot of the "sinner" according to 2:26?
- What does Ecclesiastes 1-2 say about "using life" vs. "living life"? How does this speak to you where you are in life?

¹ Fox, Michael V., Anchor Bible-Proverbs 1-9, pub. by Doubleday Publishing, 2000, pp. 28-43