

My Son

Proverbs 1:1-19

Proverbs 2

Proverbs 3:1-12, 21-35

Proverbs 4 – 7

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My son, reverence for the Lord is the beginning of knowledge, the gateway to wisdom. Remember what your parents have taught you, it will serve you well.

There was once a gang of thugs that tried to recruit a naïve young man. They said, "We're gonna waylay some people, kill them, and steal everything they've got. We're gonna be rich. Come with us; you'll be rich, too." But they were all caught and executed for their crimes. The way of the wicked is like deep darkness. Don't go that way!

My son, consider the ants who work hard and always have enough to eat. There was once a young man who refused to get out of bed. "I'll just lie here a bit, rest a little longer, fold my hands and sleep a little more." Poverty overtook that lazy young man. Don't go that way!

One day I looked out my window and saw a woman dressed like a prostitute. She approached some young fool, grabbed him, kissed him, and said to him, "Come, let's make love all night long. My husband is away and won't be home for a month." He went with her, like an ox on its way to be slaughtered.

My son, stay away from the loose woman and her smooth talk; her ways lead to death. Instead, find joy in your own wife; be captivated by her love your entire life.

My son, live an intelligently disciplined life, doing what is right, guided by grace and truth, common sense and discretion. Trust in the Lord with all your heart; don't rely on your own understanding; in everything acknowledge the Lord; and the Lord will remove every obstacle that stands in your way.