

How to be LORD Directed

Proverbs 3:1-10 ¹My son, do not forget my teaching, but let your heart keep my commandments; ²for they will add length to your days, years and peace to your life. ³Never let loving devotion or faithfulness leave you; bind them around your neck, write them on the tablet of your heart. ⁴Then you will find favor and high regard in the sight of God and man. ⁵Trust in the LORD with all your heart, and lean not on your own understanding; ⁶in all your ways acknowledge Him, and He will make your paths straight. ⁷Be not wise in your own eyes; fear the LORD and turn away from evil. ⁸This will bring healing to your body and refreshment to your bones. ⁹Honor the LORD with your wealth and with the first-fruits of all your harvest; ¹⁰then your barns will be filled with plenty, and your vats will overflow with new wine. (BSB)

Review: Remember what we have been taught about Hebrew wisdom writings. Principle + restatement of the principle = Result.

I. Here are some of the examples in this passage of Hebrew repetitive teaching.

A. Principle- Not forgetting your father's teaching is the same as keeping his commandments in your heart. V. 1

Result- You will have a longer and more peaceful life. V.2

B. Principle- Not leaving loving devotion or faithful teaching is the same as binding them around your neck and writing them on the tablet of your heart. V.3

Result- You will find favor with both God and others. V.4

C. Principle- Trusting in the LORD with all of our heart and leaning not on our own understanding is the same as acknowledging Him with all of our ways. V. 5-6

Result- The important details of your life will fall into place as they are being directed by your God. V.6

D. Principle- Not justifying your actions by your own standards is the same thing as fearing the LORD and turning away from evil. V. 7

Result- Your physical body will benefit from wise decisions. V.8

E. Principle- Honoring the Lord with our wealth is the same as giving Him the first and best of what we have. V. 9

Result- Our remaining wealth will go farther than it would have if we hoarded it all to ourselves. V. 10

II. How can we apply these truths?

A. We must make it a priority to listen to wise men and women. We must also be the adults in the room.

B. We must be intentional in learning wisdom and putting it into practice.

C. It is not enough to say that we are followers of the LORD we must be seen by others as followers of the LORD. Let God decide the details.

- D.** Our *health* is important to God. We must live according to what we have been clearly taught regarding wise eating, wise drinking, wise activity etc.
- E.** *Tithing* to God is a principle that many have lost. Seek God in how you are to practice this principle.
- F.** *Worrying* about the details of our life is a result of not living wisely according to what God has clearly shown us.