

Built By the Lord

By Edwin Crozier
Adapted by Ron Vick

Chapter 19

Wisdom and Instruction

I. Discipline and Instruction

A. How do we pass on discipline and instruction?

1. Ephesians 6:4
2. Discipline and instruction need to be a habit. Not just a class every day... but life lessons as you go through the day. We must look for opportunities. The author tells a story about Maya Angelou and her grandmother.
3. Seeing these opportunities and giving that wisdom and instruction is how we pass these traits on to the next generation.

B. Proverbs is a great pattern. Proverbs 1:8

1. Proverbs is a good place to learn what to teach the next generation.
2. Proverbs has 31 chapters. Our months have 30 and 31 days in them. If you read a chapter of Proverbs every day you can finish in a month.

II. A Relationship with God

A. This Proverb has keys we must pass on to our children concerning their relationship with the Lord. Proverbs 3:5-12

B. Teaching our children

1. Don't wait until they are teenagers to begin.
 - a. We teach them love and life skills from the moment they are born.
 - b. Imagine waiting until they are a teenager to teach them table manners.
2. We should teach them to love and trust God even when they don't fully understand. James 3:17; 2 Timothy 3:14-15
3. We must teach our children to fear God.
 - a. Yes, this is not popular today. God is a God of mercy... AND He is a jealous God that expects obedience from His children.
 - b. Romans 11:22
4. We must teach our children to honor God from the best of their wealth.
 - a. Teach them to start giving to the Lord while they are young.
 - b. 2 Corinthians 9:7

III. Relationships with Others

A. We teach our children to live properly in all of their relationships... family, community, or congregation.

1. Proverbs 3:3-4 → Kindness and honesty are keys to every good relationship.
2. Matthew 7:12 → The Golden Rule
3. Ephesians 4:24, 32 → The new man has these qualities that we must all put on. 1 Peter 3:8-9; Proverbs 1:10, 15
4. We teach them right from wrong. It is important to teach the principals as to

WHY things are right and wrong.

5. We need to teach them to be the influencers and not the influenced.

B. We teach our children to obey.

1. We talked about obedience in Chapter 14.

2. Obedience does not come naturally. It must be learned.

3. Proverbs 6:20-22

4. "The time to teach obedience is in the playpen, not the state pen."

5. Start young. Teach them to obey you. This will help them in learning to obey their teachers and those in authority.

6. Proverbs 24:21 → King = Civil government

7. Hebrews 13:17

a. Of course, this applies to the church first.

b. The principle is the same for all walks of life.

8. Children must learn to respect their teachers at school, employers at work, policemen in the community, elders and teachers in the church... and elders in general.

a. Much of this teaching has been lost in our modern culture.

b. Naturally, if a child does not respect their parents, they will have no respect for any of these other roles.

9. 2 Kings 2:23-24; Leviticus 19:32

IV. Matters of Life

A. We teach general principles for living wisely and righteously in this world.

B. Proverbs 4:23-24; Ephesians 4:29 → We teach them to watch over their heart.

C. Proverbs 5:1-23 → We teach the proper context in which to fulfill their sexual desire.

D. Proverbs 6:1-3 → How to deal with money in a material world

E. Proverbs 6:6-11; 10:5; 2 Thess. 3:10 → We teach about work and discipline

F. Proverbs 23:20-21; Ecclesiastes 10:16-17 → We teach control over physical passions about eating or any other pleasure that can be taken to excess.

G. Proverbs 23:31; 31:4; 20:1 → We teach about the dangers of alcohol.

H. Proverbs 31:10-31 → We teach our children about what kind of man to look for.

1. Notice that the chapter is addressed to Lemuel and is written by his mother.

2. Lemuel is likely a poetic name for Solomon.

3. She was not teaching women how to be wives. She was writing to tell her son what kind of woman to marry.

4. The rest of Proverbs was written to tell what kind of man he needs to be.

I. Proverbs 17:21 – Wisdom and instruction need to be a habit in our homes.

V. Today's Response

A. What are the priorities of wisdom and instruction you need to teach to your children? Which should be taught first?

B. The best way to teach is to be an example of the lesson being taught. Which of these principles do you need to work on?