

PROVERBS: *Parents & Children*

INTRODUCTION:

This lesson will consider 29 proverbs giving wisdom for both parents and children in the family relationship. With family turmoil so rampant, these wise proverbs are much needed in our society.

- I. A WISE OR FOOLISH SON AFFECTS THE HAPPINESS OR SORROW OF THE PARENTS (10:1, 10:5, 13:1, 15:5, 17:21, 17:25, 19:13, 19:27, 23:15-16, 23:24-25, 27:11, 28:7).
- II. CORRECTIVE DISCIPLINE AND PROPER INSTRUCTION ARE PART OF LOVE FOR A CHILD (13:24, 19:18, 22:6, 22:15, 23:13-14, 29:15, 29:17).
- III. THE SHAME OF MISTREATING PARENTS (19:26, 20:20, 23:22, 28:24).
- IV. THE JOYFUL PRIDE IN A LONG LINE OF OFFSPRING AND ANCESTORS (17:7, 20:7).

QUESTIONS:

1. If a wise man makes a glad father (10:1), what four wise things can a son do to make his father glad?
2. What causes a mother "heaviness" or "grief"? Give a specific example of such.
3. In Prov. 19:13, what do the contentions of a wife have in common with a foolish son?
4. How does a wise son help his father when the father is reproached by others?
5. "He that _____ his rod _____ his son."
6. In Proverbs 13:24, what does the rod represent?
7. What does it mean to "chasteneth him betimes" (KJV & ASV) ?
8. What desire should one have when disciplining a child?

What desire should one not have?

9. Proverbs 22:6 has been interpreted by some as being:
- (a) an absolute standard to determine whether or not parents have properly obeyed God.
 - (b) a general rule that emphasizes the lasting effects of instruction and discipline upon a child.

Which view do you believe best expresses the nature of this Proverb? Why?

10. Is spanking a child necessarily harmful to the child? Explain.

11. What is another way of saying "a child left to himself"?

12. What is one characteristic of the delight that a wise son gives to his father?

13. What will happen to one who curses his father or mother?

14. What is just as important as hearkening to one's father?

15. In Proverbs 28:24, how is one robbing his parents?

16. Who is a crown to old men?

17. Do sustained family relationships have anything to do with our happiness? Explain.

18. What can we do to help insure that our children will be blessed?

Thought Question: Do current theories of human psychology agree with the proverbs about family relationships? What has been the fruit of those modern theories?