

Remember What Your Mother Taught You

Proverbs 1:7-9

Ephesians 6:2-3, ESV—“Honor your father and mother” (this is the first commandment with a promise), “that it may go well with you and that you may live long in the land”

Proverbs 1:7-9 tells us how to do that

We are wired to grow into independence, but we have to be careful not to totally abandon our parents’ instruction

What?

Be quick on the uptake, and slow to forsake what your godly mother taught you

The pattern and the perks—

Vs. 7—The **foundation** is the fear of the Lord

It refers to a **relationship of awe and respect** toward God, and the worship and service that flow out of that

You can’t put knowledge and wisdom into practice without knowing and fearing God

“Knowledge” is an understanding of the **truth about the world and God**

“Wisdom” is **applying knowledge in the real world—** honesty, integrity, work ethic, and purity, which give you success

So the content is understanding and wisdom, with the foundation of fearing the Lord

Vs. 8—The **method is teaching and instruction**

The father instructs, the mother teaches; they share

Both instruction and teaching communicate knowledge and wisdom positively, but **instruction includes discipline**

God intends for husbands and fathers to assume a position of authority in their homes

Discipline should fall to the father; a father who forces his wife to discipline the children is **abdicating his responsibility**

A father who takes responsibility in the discipline of his children **honours both God, and the mother of his children**

Vs. 9a—young men who follow this instruction and teaching **will be rewarded as if with an Olympic medal**

Your righteousness will give you victory in life and with God

Vs. 9b—young women who follow the instruction and teaching of their parents will be **rewarded as if with a beautiful pendant necklace**

Your righteousness will enhance your beauty

So What?

II Timothy 3:14-15, ESV—But as for you, continue in what you have learned and have firmly believed, knowing from whom you learned it and how from childhood you have been acquainted with the sacred writings, which are able to make you wise for salvation through faith in Christ Jesus

Determine to be the kind of parent that Proverbs describes, with the enabling of the Lord

We honour our mothers by continually **being transformed and bearing fruit** as the power of the gospel works within us

The final say—Solomon

Proverbs 23:25, NIV—May your father and mother be glad; may she who gave you birth rejoice!

Now What?

Identify the godly teaching and example of your parents

Determine with the Lord’s help to live by what you were taught, and to pass it on to the next generation