

RELATIONSHIPS, PART 2: "MY SON, GIVE ME YOUR HEART"

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Tuesday, October 27, 2015

Proverbs 23:15 – 26

¹⁵ My son, if your heart is wise,
my heart too will be glad.

¹⁶ My inmost being^[a] will exult
when your lips speak what is right.

¹⁷ Let not your heart envy sinners,
but continue in the fear of the LORD all the day.

¹⁸ Surely there is a future,
and your hope will not be cut off.

¹⁹ Hear, my son, and be wise,
and direct your heart in the way.

²⁰ Be not among drunkards^[b]
or among gluttonous eaters of meat,

²¹ for the drunkard and the glutton will come to poverty,
and slumber will clothe them with rags.

²² Listen to your father who gave you life,
and do not despise your mother when she is old.

²³ Buy truth, and do not sell it;
buy wisdom, instruction, and understanding.

²⁴ The father of the righteous will greatly rejoice;
he who fathers a wise son will be glad in him.

²⁵ Let your father and mother be glad;
let her who bore you rejoice.

²⁶ My son, give me your heart,
and let your eyes observe^[c] my ways.

Proverbs 3:11 – 12

¹¹ My son, do not despise the LORD's discipline
or be weary of his reproof,

¹² for the LORD reproves him whom he loves,
as a father the son in whom he delights.

Proverbs 20:29

²⁹ The glory of young men is their strength,
but the splendor of old men is their gray hair.

Proverbs 22:6

⁶ Train up a child in the way he should go;
even when he is old he will not depart from it.

Questions:

1. What stood out most to you this morning that you want to continue to think about?
2. Who have been admirable men in your life that have modeled fatherhood for you (biological fathers and/or spiritual fathers)? What stands out about them?
3. What are ways to know the heart of someone, especially a child? How have you put this into practice in your life?
4. What has been the hardest struggle for you as a father? If you are a father, what counsel would you offer a young man who is not yet a father? What do you wish someone had told you?
5. Do you have people from different generations involved closely in your life? Why do you think the Proverbs commends this?
6. What has the fatherhood of God meant to you personally?