

The Book of Proverbs

Family Matters

- ❖ Rearing Children
- ❖ Adultery
- ❖ The Noble Woman



Rearing Children

Proverbs 22:6 NIV

"Start children off on the way they should go, and even when they are old they will not turn from it."



Genesis 4:1-4

Adam made love to his wife Eve*, and she became pregnant and gave birth to Cain. She said, “With the help of the LORD I have brought forth a man.”² Later she gave birth to his brother Abel.

Now Abel kept flocks, and Cain worked the soil.³ In the course of time Cain brought some of the fruits of the soil as an offering to the LORD.⁴ And Abel also brought an offering—fat portions from some of the firstborn of his flock.

*beautiful/faith/grace/seed/Jesus

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...teach them obedience to the Words of God!

Matthew 28

Then Jesus came to them and said, “All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me. ¹⁹ Therefore go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, ²⁰ and teaching them to obey everything I have commanded you. And surely I am with you always, to the very end of the age.”

Tell them what the Lord has done...

Luke 22

¹⁹ And he took bread, gave thanks and broke it, and gave it to them, saying, “This is my body given for you; do this in remembrance of me.”

²⁰ In the same way, after the supper he took the cup, saying, “This cup is the new covenant in my blood, which is poured out for you.

***Time of the Exodus**

Deuteronomy 6:4-9,20- 25 NIV (The Shema)

Hear, O Israel: The Lord our God, the Lord is one. [5] Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your strength. [6] These commandments that I give you today are to be on your hearts. [7] Impress them on your children. Talk about them when you sit at home and when you walk along the road, when you lie down and when you get up. [8] Tie them as symbols on your hands and bind them on your foreheads. [9] Write them on the doorframes of your houses and on your gates.

[20] In the future, when your son asks you, "What is the meaning of the stipulations, decrees and laws the Lord our God has commanded you. [21] tell him: "We were slaves of Pharaoh in Egypt, but the Lord brought us out of Egypt with a mighty hand. [22] Before our eyes the Lord sent signs and wonders---great and terrible---on Egypt and Pharaoh and his whole household. [23] But he brought us out from there to bring us in and give us the land he promised on oath to our ancestors. [24] The Lord commanded us to obey all these decrees and to fear the Lord our God, so that we might always prosper and be kept alive, as is the case today. [25] And if we are careful to obey all this law before the Lord our God, as he has commanded us, that will be our righteousness."

Proverbs 22:6 NIV

"Start children off on the way they should go,
and even when they are old they will not turn
from it."

What about Cain?

*The proverbs contained in this book are not
to be interpreted as prophecies nor should
their statements about effects and results be
interpreted as promises.

Cain

Genesis 4

The LORD looked with favour on Abel and his offering, but on Cain and his offering he did not look with favour.

Proverbs 15:8 NIV

The Lord detests the sacrifice of the wicked.

Then the Lord said to Cain,...

“Why are you angry? Why is your face downcast? If you do what is right, will you not be accepted?

Jeremiah 6:16-20 NIV

This is what the Lord says: “Stand at the crossroads and look; ask for the ancient paths, ask where the good way is, and walk in it, and you will find rest for your souls.

But you said, 'We will not walk in it.'

I appointed watchmen over you and said,
'Listen to the sound of the trumpet!' *

But you said, 'We will not listen.'

(thus) they have not listened to my words and have rejected my law. What do I care about incense from Sheba or sweet calamus from a distant land? Your burnt offerings are not acceptable; your sacrifices do not please me.”

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Proverbs Guidance for Correction

Proverbs 23:13-14 NIV

Do not withhold discipline from a child; if you punish them with the rod, they will not die. Punish them with the rod and save them from death.

Proverbs 22:15 NIV

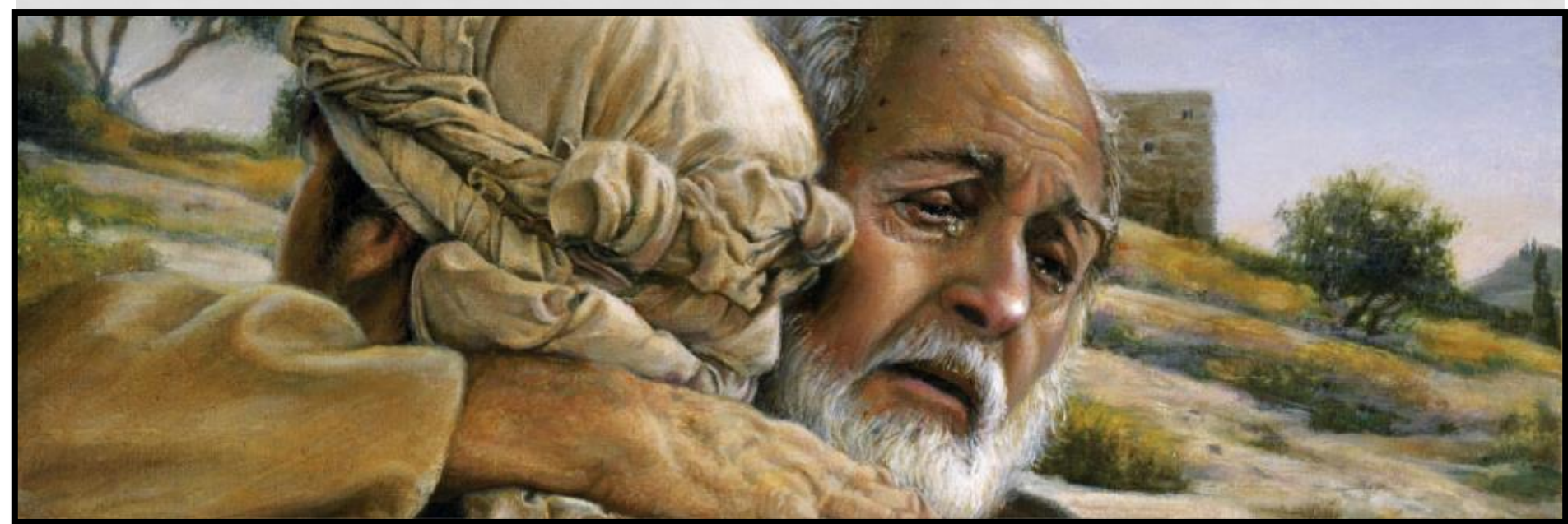
Folly is bound up in the heart of a child, but the rod of discipline will drive it far away.

Proverbs 3:11-12 NIV

My son, do not despise the Lord's discipline, and do not resent his rebuke, because the Lord disciplines those he loves, as a father the son he delights in.



For this son of mine was
dead and is alive again;



he was lost and is found!

Adultery

Proverbs 7:6-23

At the window of my house I looked down through the lattice. I saw among the simple, I noticed among the young men, a youth who had no sense...



Verses 21-23

With persuasive words she led him astray;
she seduced him with her smooth talk.

²² All at once he followed her
like an ox going to the slaughter,
like a deer stepping into a noose

²³ till an arrow pierces his liver,
like a bird darting into a snare,
little knowing* it will cost him his life.

Proverbs 2:1-6 NIV

My son, if you accept my words
and store up my commands within you, [2]
turning your ear to wisdom and applying your
heart to understanding--- [3] indeed, if you call
out for insight and cry aloud for understanding,
[4] and if you look for it as for silver and search
for it as for hidden treasure, [5] then you will
understand the fear of the Lord and find the
knowledge of God. [6] For the Lord gives
wisdom; from his mouth come knowledge and
understanding.

If, Then, For...

... My son,

IF you...

1. accept **my words** and
2. store up my **commands** within you,
3. turn(ing) your ear to **wisdom** and
4. apply(ing) your heart to **understanding-**
indeed, **IF** you
5. call out for **insight** and
6. cry aloud for **understanding**,
and **IF** you
7. look for it as for silver and
8. search for it as for hidden treasure...

THEN you will...

1. Understand - **the fear of the Lord**
2. Find- **the knowledge of God.**

For...

1. the Lord gives **wisdom**;
2. from His mouth* come **knowledge and understanding.**

Proverbs 2:12-15 NIV

Wisdom will save you from the ways of wicked men, from men whose words are perverse, who have left the straight paths to walk in dark ways, who delight in doing wrong and rejoice in the perverseness of evil, whose paths are crooked and who are devious in their ways.

Words- are perverse (contrary, difficult, unreasonable)

Path- Left: Straight path- (small gate, narrow road leads to life.)

Walk: Dark ways (wide gate, broad road-
Destruction) - Matt 7:13

Proverbs 2:16-18

Wisdom will save you also from the adulterous woman, from the wayward woman with her seductive **words**, who has left the partner of her youth and ignored the covenant she made before God.

Surely her **house** leads down to death and her **paths** to the spirits of the dead. [19] None who go to her return or attain the paths of life.

Words- seductive (alluring, tempting, irresistible)

Path- leads to death & the spirits of the dead.

- ❖ Words can SAVE you
- ❖ Words can DESTROY you

How?

Words led to Destruction- Judgment / Punishment Consequences (man)

Proverbs 6:27-29

Can a man scoop fire into his lap without his clothes being burned?
Can a man walk on hot coals without his feet being scorched? So is
he who sleeps with another man's wife; no one who touches her will
go unpunished.

Proverbs 6:32-35 NIV

...a man who commits adultery has no sense; whoever does so
destroys himself. Blows and disgrace are his lot, and his shame will
never be wiped away.

For jealousy arouses a husband's fury, and he will show no mercy
when he takes revenge. He will not accept any compensation; he
will refuse a bribe, however great it is.

Consequences: (God)

Proverbs 5:20-23 NIV

Why, my son, be intoxicated with another man's wife?

Why embrace the bosom of a wayward woman?

For your ways are in full view of the Lord, and he examines all your paths. The evil deeds of the wicked ensnare them; the cords of their sins hold them fast.

For lack of discipline they will die, led astray by their own great folly.

Revelation 21:6-8

He who was seated on the throne said to me:

“It is done. I am the Alpha and the Omega, the Beginning and the End. To the thirsty I will give water without cost from the spring of the water of life. ⁷ Those who are victorious will inherit all this, and I will be their God and they will be my children. ⁸ But the cowardly, the unbelieving, the vile, the murderers, the sexually immoral, those who practice magic arts, the idolaters and all liars—they will be consigned to the fiery lake of burning sulfur. This is the second death.”

Proverbs 6:20-35 NIV (Wisdom)

My son, keep your father's command and do not forsake your mother's teaching.* [21] Bind them always on your heart; fasten them around your neck. [22] When you walk, they will guide you; when you sleep, they will watch over you; when you awake, they will speak to you. [23] For this command is a lamp, this teaching is a light, and correction and instruction are the way to life, [24] keeping you from your neighbor's wife, from the smooth talk of a wayward woman. [25] Do not lust in your heart after her beauty or let her captivate you with her eyes. [26] For a prostitute can be had for a loaf of bread, but another man's wife preys on your very life.

***Proverbs 5:15-23 NIV**

Drink water from your own cistern, running water from your own well. Should your springs overflow in the streets, your streams of water in the public squares? Let them be yours alone, never to be shared with strangers. May your fountain be blessed, and may you rejoice in the wife of your youth. A loving doe, a graceful deer---may her breasts satisfy you always, may you ever be intoxicated with her love.

The Noble Woman

The Noble Wife

Proverbs 31:10-31 NIV



“In her hand she holds the distaff and grasps the spindle with her fingers.” (vs. 19)

Praise for the Noble Woman

Verses 28, 29

Her children arise and call her blessed;

Her husband also, and he **praises** her:

"Many women do noble things,
but you surpass them all."

Verses 30, 31

- ❖ "Charm is deceptive, and beauty is fleeting;
but a woman who **fears the Lord** is to be **praised.**"
- ❖ "Honour her for all that her hands have done,
and let her **works** bring her **praise** at the city gate."



Mrs. D. comes to mind, and many others of the women at BFA who have faced severe hardships and are still going on strong for the Lord.

Another example that comes to mind is a woman in DR Congo named Perpetua whom we met when we were there in 2016.

Perpetua

One writes of her:

A house call to our dear friend, Perpetua, who has been paraplegic since Sept 1972, (45years), is always a delight. She was one of Nancy's patients on arrival in Nyankunde in 1973 and neither of us thought this far into the future to know that we would be kept by the Lord through some rough times and still be here in Bunia in 2009.

She continues well with her sewing business on a short wide stool on her lap most of the time.

Some women I would consider 'Noble' would include:

Mother Teresa – she displayed tremendous faith and was willing to put in the efforts required to make a difference in so many peoples' lives. She put others first / was completely selfless in her work with the poor.

Corrie Ten Boom – again a women of tremendous faith and complete trust in her Lord!

Majken Brody

A lady named Majken Broby – who was a Swedish nurse who was instrumental in developing a Children's Refugee Home in Germany after WW II. She overcame enormous personal health issues / financial concerns and was able to provide a loving home for many, many refugee children.

She depended entirely on the Lord to supply the needs of the home.

I remember meeting her as a young girl when she came to visit us on the farm. She was such a warm, loving woman.

I would definitely call her Noble.

Sharon Johnston

I admire Sharon Johnston, the wife of our Governor General, David Johnston.

She married David when he had holes in his shoes. They are both brilliant people.

Her educational pedigree is too long to write here...

She is self effacing and never pushes herself into the spotlight, but works tirelessly to improve the lot of others.

I totally forgot to mention that Sharon and David had 5 children. How could I forget????

The Queen Mother

I think that "the Queen Mother", as she was known, would fit the definition of noble woman.

I learned this part about the Queen Mother from my own mother. When ever I heard my mother mention the Queen Mother, she would talk about how the British public loved and respected the Queen Mother because she chose to stay with them, and go through what they were going through during the Second World War rather than leaving them (as she would have be able to do with her status in life) for a more comfortable and less threatening environment while the war was on.

At the outbreak of World War II, some officials suggested that Elizabeth and her children evacuate to North America or Canada. To this, the queen replied, "The children will not leave unless I do. I shall not leave unless their father does, and the King will not leave the country in any circumstances whatsoever."

During the war her seemingly indomitable spirit provided moral support to the British public. In recognition of her role as an asset to British interest, Adolf Hitler described her as "the most dangerous woman in Europe".

The Last Word...

The Noble Woman

I guess what comes to mind for most people when speaking of the 'Noble Woman' is Proverbs 31.

This passage can actually be discouraging to some women who may consider that they could never reach the level of ability or skills depicted for a woman in this passage.

However, what strikes me in considering women in my life who I would consider 'Noble' is the level of **FAITH** exhibited by these women!

Yes – the character displayed in Proverbs 31 is certainly a high calling – which I think is only possible when we have complete Faith and Trust in God as our helper and strength! He is the one who gives us the ability to do or be anything at all!