

Paths of Wisdom: Family

4/25/2021

J: We all have a few phrases we remember our parents or grandparents saying. My grandfather's sayings: "The finest tiger in the jungle." "Ice cream fills in the cracks."

What did your grandparents say to you? Maybe "Treat others as you would like to be treated." Or "If you can't say something nice, don't say anything at all." Or "You catch more flies with honey than with vinegar." What do you want your kids and grandkids to remember?

Series: paths of wisdom. The path of family.

G: God has given us his family as a place where wisdom is multiplied. Applies beyond our blood family.

1. In the family, God calls us to pass on wisdom and receive wisdom.
2. God uses family to help us establish boundaries.
3. God makes the path of family bigger.

J: The book of Proverbs is given to us as sons (46x in Prov!). Sons are those who inherit. The most important inheritance is wisdom.

Prov 4:1-7. You have something to share. You need to receive wisdom. Objective: of parenting is the heart. David and Solomon's sexual failures. Our trip to Zion and Bryce and sharing about sexuality.

G: Snowmobiling and peeling an apple story. Prov 30:17.

J: God calls us to put boundaries on the paths of family.

Discipline= conforming our heart to look like our master's. Positive and negative in nature. Encouragement: Proverbs 22:6

G: Boundaries are good! They make a child feel safe (story of a fence). Proverbs 13:24.

Original sin. Our hearts are wayward. Our hearts need correction. Children are not innocent and pure.

J: Our hearts head are naturally selfish. Impermanent pain is much better than permanent pain. Ps 23:4b "your rod and your staff they comfort me...." A shepherd's rod = painful, but safe.

G: God desires our character to reflect his.

Hebrews 12:5-6: those who aren't disciplined are in trouble. They aren't sons at all. A loving parent disciplines. A loving parent puts boundaries in their child's life. The danger of anger.

J: God makes the path of family bigger.

Are you discouraged? Children who have cut ties. Parents who have neglected to offer wisdom. Pursue those. But we have more encouragement. Our family is bigger than our family.

Ancient Jewish family: multi-generational. Like my parents and sister!

At times, the "son" is clearly family, at other times, it appears to be more of a master/apprentice relationship. Both are at play.

G: Jesus: who is my father?

Paul calls himself a father to Timothy and Titus. We are invited into familial relationships with one another in Christ. Next Steps.

2 Tim 1:2a "To Timothy, my beloved child..."

J: Story of Curt and Dezra 2,500 miles from home. Their care. Baptism.