

Listen Up



MEMORY VERSE: "Take hold of My instructions; don't let them go. Guard them, for they are the key to life."
Proverbs 4:13

DAY 1 PROVERBS — Instruction

1. How does God want us to respond to Him? John 14:5

2. What do these Proverbs tell you about God's instruction for your life?
v. 4:13

v. 8:33

v. 16:20

3. Why do we try to handle life without His help?

DAY 2 PROVERBS — Discipline

5. What do you learn from Proverbs 3:11-12 about God's discipline?

6. What does James 1:2-4 tell you about how God uses testing, trials and troubles to discipline us?

7. God always disciplines us for our good! What do these Proverbs add?

v. 10:17

v. 15:32

v. 12:1

8. How do you think God wants you to react too and handle His discipline?

DAY 3 PROVERBS — Advice

9. What do these proverbs say about advice?

v. 19:20

v. 12:15

v. 15:22

10. Not all advice is good advice, but if the person who's handing it out is someone you respect, and who has the experience behind him to back up his words, he may be worth listening to. How does Proverbs 15:7 speak to this?

11. How would you say you are on listening to, and accepting advice? Why?

DAY 4 PROVERBS — Criticism

12. What do these Proverbs say on listening to, and accepting criticism/correction?

v. 15:31

v. 13:18a

v. 29:1

13. How would God like you to respond to criticism when it is valid?
How should you respond to criticism that you feel has no value?
14. What are ways to offer constructive criticism to someone? See Ephesians 4:15.
15. Read Proverbs 13:18b and 15:32b. How would you say you are in listening to, and accepting criticism/correction? Why?

DAY 5 PROVERBS - Listen Up — Wrap Up

16. What attitudes should you have as you receive God's instruction, discipline, advice and criticism?
17. Why do you think having wise counsel is important to protect you from yourself?

TAKE AWAY

Consider finding a mentor - someone you trust and respect. Ask them to meet with you once a month to talk about big decisions and big questions about life. Then be ready to listen and learn.

BLESSING

"For the Lord corrects those He loves, just as a father corrects a child in whom He delights."
Proverbs 3:12

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John 14:15 (Jesus says:) “If you love Me, obey My commandments.”

4:13 Take hold of My instructions; don't let them go. Guard them, for they are the key to life.

8:33 Listen to My instruction and be wise. Don't ignore it.

16:20 Those who listen to instruction will prosper; those who trust the Lord will be joyful.

3:11-12 My child, don't reject the Lord's discipline, and don't be upset when He corrects you. For the Lord corrects those He loves, just as a father corrects a child in whom He delights.

James 1:2-4 Dear brothers and sisters, when troubles of any kind come your way, consider it an opportunity for great joy. For you know that when your faith is tested, your endurance has a chance to grow. So let it grow, for when your endurance is fully developed, you will be perfect and complete, needing nothing.

10:17 People who accept discipline are on the pathway to life, but those who ignore correction will go astray.

15:32 If you reject discipline, you only harm yourself; but if you listen to correction, you grow in understanding.

12:1 To learn, you must love discipline; it is stupid to hate correction.

19:20 Get all the advice and instruction you can, so you will be wise the rest of your life.

12:15 Fools think their own way is right, but the wise listen to others.

15:22 Plans go wrong for lack of advice; many advisers bring success.

15:7 The lips of the wise give good advice; the heart of a fool has none to give.

15:31 If you listen to constructive criticism, you will be at home among the wise.

13:18a If you ignore criticism, you will end in poverty and disgrace...

29:1 Whoever stubbornly refuses to accept criticism will suddenly be destroyed beyond recovery.

Ephesians 4:15 Instead, we will speak the truth in love, growing in every way more and more like Christ...

13:18b If you accept correction, you will be honored.

15:32b If you listen to correction, you grow in understanding.

Wisdom: God-given understanding, ability to distinguish between right and wrong, insight, discernment. The ability to look at life from God's point of view and then choosing to live it out through the power of the Holy Spirit.

Fear of the Lord: profound reverence and awe toward God; respect for God's character, words, actions and position that leads to love and obedience; true honor, devotion and surrender to God.

