

Why follow the Instructions?

Proverbs 15:5-12

Introduction:

Proverbs 1:1 The proverbs of Solomon the son of David, king of Israel;

2 To know wisdom and **instruction**; To perceive the words of understanding;

That is the way that this book starts off. The Holy Spirit used Solomon to pen this book so you might know wisdom and INSTRUCTION. That means he gave you this book so you might forgo the hurt that comes with failing to follow instructions. That is is the goal or the purpose of this book. You need wisdom and instruction to guide your life.

You might say that you don't really think that you need instruction. That you can figure out things on your own. That the school of hard knocks is what you need and you will find your own way. In the spiritual sense this mentality is in essence rejecting what God has laid out for you and saying "God I don't want to follow the instruction I can figure it out on my own." That way of thinking and living will make you an idiot and will lead you to Death.

Proverbs 12:1 Whoso loveth instruction loveth knowledge: But he that hateth reproof *is* brutish.

Your attitude and the way you respond to instruction, correction, or discipline in your life with God's Word is the difference between a person who loves knowledge and an idiot. That is what brutish is. You are stupid. If you like the instruction that God's word gives, you are a wise guy. You are smart but if you don't you are Stupid. You are a dumb brute. That is pretty harsh but not as harsh as the next truth. Because you are not just stupid but you are in danger of something far bigger than being called stupid.

Proverbs **6:23** For the commandment *is* a lamp; and the law *is* light;
And reproofs of instruction **are the way of life:**

God's word is a lamp and light to illuminate the the way/path of Life. Instruction is the way of life. Many people know where they need the Lord but they refuse to submit or repent from there ways. They refuse the instruction to Life. Saving faith always brings repentance of the reliance on your self righteousness. Jesus makes it clear there is only one way to father. John **14:6** Jesus saith unto him, I am the way, the truth, and the life: no man cometh unto the Father, but by me. That's why when you have instruction you hold to it and cling because in instruction there is life. Proverbs **4:13** Take fast hold of instruction; let *her* not go: Keep her; **for she is thy life.** The is bible is saying grab on to it (instruction) and don't let go. Proverbs **23:23** Buy the

truth, **and sell it not; Also** wisdom, and **instruction**, and understanding.

The difference between Life and death is will you regard (Follow) instruction or despise it. To follow God's word or not. Proverbs **15:32**

He that refuseth instruction despiseth his

own soul: But he that heareth reproof getteth understanding.

Those who refuse instruction HATE their own soul.

So the question I would like to pose to you tonight is this. **Will you**

follow the Instruction? I believe that information already

given would be enough for people to regard instruction but I believe

Proverbs 15:5-12 lays out some reasons for you to follow Instruction.

15:5 A fool **despiseth** his father's **instruction**: But he that

regardeth reproof is prudent. **6** In the house of the righteous **is** much

treasure: But in the revenues of the wicked **is** trouble. **7** The lips of the

wise **disperse** knowledge: But the heart of the foolish **doeth not** so. **8**

The sacrifice of the wicked **is** an abomination to the Lord: But the prayer

of the upright **is** his delight. **9** The way of the wicked **is** an abomination

unto the Lord: But he **loveth** him that **followeth** after righteousness.

10 Correction **is** grievous unto him that **forsaketh** the way:

And he that hateth **reproof** shall die. **11** Hell and destruction are before the Lord: How much more then the hearts of the children of men? **12** A scorner **loveth** not one that **reproveth** him: Neither will he **go** unto the wise.

So tonight I want you to answer the question: Will you follow the Instruction but before you do I want you to answer these two questions.

I. Do you want riches or ruin? vs 6-7

- **6** In the house of the righteous is much treasure: But in the revenues of the wicked is trouble. **7** The lips of the wise **disperse** knowledge: But the heart of the foolish **doeth not so**.

A. You can have a house that has much treasure.

1. Explain

a) This is not a prosperity gospel. But people who follow the instruction from the word of God reserve something that wicked don't .

(1) Proverbs **8:21** That I may cause those that love me to inherit substance; **And I will fill their treasures.**

(a) God takes care of his own people, the righteous ones.

(b) Listen to what the New Testament says he does for those who follow THE FATHER'S Instruction.

i) **Ephesians 2:6** And hath raised *us* up together, and made *us* sit together in heavenly *places* in Christ Jesus: **7** That in the ages to come he might shew **the exceeding riches of his grace in *his* kindness toward **us**** through **Christ Jesus**.

ii) Trump that. Can you think of a better Treasure than that?

(2) Those who have followed the instructions of God's word reap eternal life. What greater treasure is out there?

(3) Proverbs **10:16** The labour of the righteous *tendeth to life*:The fruit of the wicked to sin.

(a) This righteousness is not what we can do by ourselves that earns us life.

i) Titus **3:4** But after that the kindness and love of God our Saviour toward man appeared, **5 Not by works of righteousness which we have done**, but according to his mercy he saved us, by the washing of regeneration, and renewing of the Holy Ghost;

ii) But the righteousness of God. Philippians **3:9** And be found in him, **not having mine own righteousness**, which is of the law, but that which is through the faith of Christ, **the righteousness which is of God** by faith:

2. We are told exactly what it is but we do know that a life lived for the Lord bears rewards that the unbeliever will envy.

a) **Luke 16:19-31** The story of Lazarus and the rich man.

(1) The rich man sees Lazarus in Abraham's bosom and the rich man asked for some relief. Abraham's response was this, Luke **16:25** "But Abraham said, Son, remember that thou in thy lifetime receivedst thy good things, and likewise Lazarus evil things: but now he is comforted, and thou art tormented."

(2) And why did the rich man die and go to hell? Well what was going to keep the rich man's brothers out that place of torment? The Word of God. "**29** Abraham saith unto him, They have Moses and the prophets; let them hear them. **30** And he said, Nay, father Abraham: but if one went unto them from the dead, they will repent. **31** And he said unto him, If they hear not Moses and the prophets, neither will they be persuaded, though one rose from the dead." Let them follow the instruction.

3. Apply

a) You must understand that Following the Instruction of Wisdom leads to riches.

B. But if you reject it, if you despise instruction than you can expect trouble.

1. Explain

- a) You all know this. The Bible says Galatians 6:8 **For he that soweth to his flesh shall of the flesh reap corruption; but he that soweth to the Spirit shall of the Spirit reap life everlasting.**
- b) Romans **3:16** **Destruction and misery are in their ways: 17** **And the way of peace have they not known: 18** **There is no fear of God before their eyes.**

2. Illustrate

- a) This is the life that doesn't follow instructions. Solomon is not just warning his son, "if you don't follow the instruction on the car manual than your idiot." Solomon is not setting up a system where young men are suppose to obey their father's instruction making a father a lord or something.
- b) But rather it is a warning. If you don't follow the instruction of this Word you will be RUINED.
- c) Psalm 119:9 **Wherewithal shall a young man cleanse his way? by taking heed thereto according to thy word. 10** **With my whole heart have I sought thee: O let me not wander from thy commandments.**

3. Apply

- a) That goes for us today we despise this instruction then it is game over we are ruined. **1 Timothy 3:16** **All scripture is given by inspiration of God, and is profitable for doctrine, for reproof, for correction, for instruction in righteousness:**

b) This isn't a game and it is sure not a Joke. A fool **despiseth** his father's **instruction.**

C. Following the Instruction will give you much treasure and in return You can give knowledge but the fool who depiseth instruction has nothing. **7 The lips of the wise disperse knowledge: But the heart of the foolish doeth not so.**

1. Explain

a) Because you have followed the instruction you have gained wisdom. And now that you have wisdom when you speak you disperse Knowledge. But the fool has nothing to offer because there is nothing inside.

(1) I like this quote and I believe it fits well. A.W Tozer said, "He that is from above is above all. I want to say dear Christians don't go around apologizing for Him. Don't go around worried because you can't make His doctrine fit in with what you learned in School. All you learned in school was one fallen head instructing another fallen head."

(a) In the realm of truth the foolish, those who despise His instruction have nothing to offer. They cant offer true knowledge because their heart isn't changed.

b) But the believer has something to give.

(1) **1Peter 4:10** As every man hath received the gift, *even so minister the same one to another, as good stewards of the manifold grace of God. 11* If any man speak, *let him*

Speak as the oracles of God; if any man minister, let him do it as of the ability which God giveth: that God in all things may be glorified through Jesus Christ, to whom be praise and dominion for ever and ever. Amen.

(a) We have received something and we can give true knowledge.

2. Apply

a) That is the truth for those who have followed the instructions you have something to give.

D. Conclusion and Application for today's Listener.

1. Following the Instruction gives you much treasure and a purpose to speak

2. But not following Instruction leads to trouble and heart that is void of Knowledge.

3. But that is not the only question I want to ask you today.

II. Do you want disgust or delight God in heaven?

- **8** The sacrifice of the wicked *is* an abomination to the Lord: But the prayer of the upright *is* his delight. **9** The way of the wicked *is* an abomination unto the Lord: But he **loveth** him that **followeth** after righteousness.

A. Your works that you make to God, HE ABHORS.

1. Man kind always seem like they want to offer things unto God on their terms.

- a) Cain, **Genesis 4:3** And in process of time it came to pass, that Cain brought of the fruit of the ground an **offering unto the Lord.** **4** And Abel, he also brought of the firstlings of his flock and of the fat thereof. And **the Lord** had respect unto Abel and to his offering: **5 But unto Cain and to his offering he had not respect.** And Cain was very wroth, and his countenance fell.
- b) They think that they can make their own terms and not follow the instructions of what God wants. They are FOOLS.
- c) Psalm **51:16** For thou desirest not sacrifice; else would I give *it*: Thou delightest not in burnt offering.**17** The sacrifices of God *are* a broken spirit: A broken and a contrite heart, O God, **thou wilt not despise.**
- d) Matthew **23:23** Woe unto you, scribes and Pharisees, hypocrites! for ye pay tithe of mint and anise and cummin, and have omitted the weightier *matters* of the law, **judgment, mercy, and faith:** these ought ye to have done, and not to leave the other undone.
- (1) These Pharisees thought that could worship God on their terms and not follow the instructions.

(2) They thought that if they gave their tithes and gave gifts then they would be ok with God.

(3) But they despised God's instruction. Therefore they were fools and their offerings were not accepted

2. The upright's prayer God delights in.

a) We now have access and can come boldly to the throne of Grace.

b) We can call Him Father.

c) He delights in something as small as prayer.

d) It isn't costly like a sacrifice would be. But rather talking to God is delightful.

B. The life that you live God HATES if you don't follow his instruction.

9 The way of the wicked is an abomination unto the Lord: But he loveth him that followeth after righteousness.

1. People think that they can get to God on their own accord. That can do what they want and it will be ok. But truth is it won't be ok.

a) One day God will judge.

b) The wicked's life is centered around themselves and they are worried about only pleasing them.

c) These wicked people are just people that are adulterers, murders and kidnappers. But these are the ones that seek themselves and their wants NOT God's.

2. But the pursuer of righteousness is the one that God loves. It that guy who is "moved to an active, and persistent, and sometimes even a dangerous search for righteousness."
 - a) I want to remind you that we don't seek our own righteousness but this, Matthew "**6:33** But seek ye first the kingdom of God, **and his righteousness**; and all these things shall be added unto you."
 - b) We seek after His righteousness the righteousness of God by Faith. Philippians 3:9

C. The Fool. The one who despiseth instruction. Will

1. The Fool. The one who despiseth instruction Shall die **10**
Correction *is* grievous unto him that **forsaketh** the way: *And* he that hateth **reproof shall die**.
 - a) The Lord knows this truth **11** Hell and destruction *are* before the Lord: How much more then the hearts of the children of men?
2. And the Fool. The one who despiseth instruction does not love the one that reproveth. **12** A scorner **loveth** not one that **reproveth** him: Neither will he **go** unto the wise.
 - a) Which is the work of the Holy Spirit.

III. Conclusion

- A. There was a story that Jesus spoke about and there were two men and they heard what instructions the Lord gave. And the one that listened and followed his instruction was called the wise and

survived the rains. The other heard and didn't follow instructions and he was called the foolish man and he did survive the rains.

B. Men lets not be Foolish. Let's follow the instruction.

C. This passage is call to salvation. A call to obey the Lord Jesus.

1. Are you following HIM?

2. Obey His instructions.

3. Repent of your sin. Turn away from your belief that you can save yourself

4. And Trust in what Jesus did on the Cross of calvary as THE payment for your sins

D. Now if you are saved can I encourage and challenge you with this passage.

1. Philippians **3:12** *Not as though I had already attained, either were already perfect: but I follow after, if that I may apprehend that for which also I am apprehended of Christ Jesus. 13 Brethren, I count not myself to have apprehended: but *this* one thing I do, forgetting those things which are behind, and reaching forth unto those things which are before,*

2. Would continue on in your search for his righteousness.

a) Don't act like you have arrived that your cry to salvation was enough for you. But rather keep after it.

3. Keep seeking to follow and find and obey His instruction

E. Tonight Men will you follow His instructions?