

Lessons in Proverbs -- Skill in Living

Proverbs 4 – Key Ideas

Read the whole chapter aloud.

4:1-9

To whom is Solomon writing? vs. 1

Why should one listen to Solomon? vs. 2

How did Solomon learn wisdom? vss. 3-4

How important is getting wisdom? vss. 5-6

What are the benefits of getting wisdom? vss. 7-9

4:10-13

What does this say about success?

How does being teachable lead to success?

What do “walk” and “run” signify? vs. 12

Instruction is your _____. vs. 13

What is wrong with “I did it my way.”

4:14-19

What is the significance of “path” and “walk”? vs. 14

Why should one turn away from the path of evil men? vss. 15-16

How often do evil men do evil?

Evil men do not sleep unless _____.

What is the significance of “eat” and “drink”? vs. 17

What is the other path one can take with his life? vs. 18

What are the benefits of this other path?

What is the significance of the way of “darkness”? vs. 19

4:20-27

What is the significance of “words” and “sayings”? vs. 20

What is the significance of “eyes” and “heart”? vs. 21

What does this say about the focus of one’s life?

What are the benefits that come to one who has this focus? Vs. 22

What is the significance of one’s heart? vs. 23

What are the four benefits of keeping one’s heart? vss. 24-27

Law: What does this chapter say to us about God’s holy law?

In light of Proverbs 4 how have you broken God’s law?

Where does the law drive us? Romans 5:20a

Gospel: What does the gospel say to one who has broken God’s law?

Romans 5:20b

²⁰ **Moreover the law entered that the offense might abound.**

But where sin abounded, grace abounded much more, (Rom. 5:20 NKJ)

Can a person who has committed many sins be clean?

⁷ **But if we walk in the light as He is in the light, we have fellowship with one another, and the blood of Jesus Christ His Son cleanses us from all sin.**

⁸ **If we say that we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us.**

⁹ **If we confess our sins, He is faithful and just to forgive us *our* sins and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness.**

¹⁰ **If we say that we have not sinned, we make Him a liar, and His word is not in us (1 Jn. 1:7-10 NKJ)**

<p>NKJ Proverbs 4:1 Hear, <i>my</i> children, the instruction of a father, And give attention to know understanding; ² For I give you good doctrine: Do not forsake my law. ³ When I was my father's son, Tender and the only one in the sight of my mother, ⁴ He also taught me, and said to me: "Let your heart retain my words; Keep my commands, and live. ⁵ Get wisdom! Get understanding! Do not forget, nor turn away from the words of my mouth. ⁶ Do not forsake her, and she will preserve you; Love her, and she will keep you. ⁷ Wisdom <i>is</i> the principal thing; <i>Therefore</i> get wisdom. And in all your getting, get understanding. ⁸ Exalt her, and she will promote you; She will bring you honor, when you embrace her. ⁹ She will place on your head an ornament of grace; A crown of glory she will deliver to you." ¹⁰ Hear, my son, and receive my sayings, And the years of your life will be many. ¹¹ I have taught you in the way of wisdom; I have led you in right paths. ¹² When you walk, your steps will not be hindered, And when you run, you will not stumble. ¹³ Take firm hold of instruction, do not let go; Keep her, for she <i>is</i> your life. ¹⁴ Do not enter the path of the wicked, And do not walk in the way of evil. ¹⁵ Avoid it, do not travel on it; Turn away from it and pass on. ¹⁶ For they do not sleep unless they have done evil; And their sleep is taken away unless they make <i>someone</i> fall.</p>	<p>NIRV Proverbs 4:1 My children, listen to a father's teaching. Pay attention and gain understanding. ² I give you good advice. So don't turn away from what I teach you. ³ I was once a young boy in my father's house. I was my mother's only child. ⁴ My father taught me. He said, "Hold on to my words with all your heart. Keep my commands. Then you will live. ⁵ Get wisdom. Get understanding. Don't forget my words. Don't turn away from them. ⁶ Stay close to wisdom, and she will keep you safe. Love her, and she will watch over you. ⁷ Wisdom is best. So get wisdom. No matter what it costs, get understanding. ⁸ Value wisdom, and she will lift you up. Hold her close, and she will honor you. ⁹ She will set a beautiful crown on your head. She will give you a glorious crown." ¹⁰ My son, listen. Accept what I say. Then you will live for many years. ¹¹ I guide you in the way of wisdom. I lead you along straight paths. ¹² When you walk, nothing will slow you down. When you run, you won't trip and fall. ¹³ Hold on to my teaching. Don't let it go. Guard it well. It is your life. ¹⁴ Don't take the path of evil people. Don't live the way sinners do. ¹⁵ Stay away from their path. Don't travel on it. Turn away from it. Go on your way. ¹⁶ Sinners can't sleep until they do what is evil. They can't rest until they make someone fall.</p>
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<p>¹⁷ For they eat the bread of wickedness, And drink the wine of violence.</p> <p>¹⁸ But the path of the just <i>is</i> like the shining sun, That shines ever brighter unto the perfect day.</p> <p>¹⁹ The way of the wicked <i>is</i> like darkness; They do not know what makes them stumble.</p> <p>²⁰ My son, give attention to my words; Incline your ear to my sayings.</p> <p>²¹ Do not let them depart from your eyes; Keep them in the midst of your heart;</p> <p>²² For they <i>are</i> life to those who find them, And health to all their flesh.</p> <p>²³ Keep your heart with all diligence, For out of it <i>spring</i> the issues of life.</p> <p>²⁴ Put away from you a deceitful mouth, And put perverse lips far from you.</p> <p>²⁵ Let your eyes look straight ahead, And your eyelids look right before you.</p> <p>²⁶ Ponder the path of your feet, And let all your ways be established.</p> <p>²⁷ Do not turn to the right or the left; Remove your foot from evil.</p> <p>(Prov. 4:1-27 NKJ)</p>	<p>¹⁷ They do evil just as easily as they eat food. They hurt others as easily as they drink wine.</p> <p>¹⁸ The path of those who do what is right is like the first gleam of dawn. It shines brighter and brighter until the full light of day.</p> <p>¹⁹ But the way of those who do what is wrong is like deep darkness. They don't know what makes them trip and fall.</p> <p>²⁰ My son, pay attention to what I say. Listen closely to my words.</p> <p>²¹ Don't let them out of your sight. Keep them in your heart.</p> <p>²² They are life to those who find them. They are health to your whole body.</p> <p>²³ Above everything else, guard your heart. It is where your life comes from.</p> <p>²⁴ Don't speak with twisted words. Keep evil talk away from your lips.</p> <p>²⁵ Let your eyes look straight ahead. Keep looking right in front of you.</p> <p>²⁶ Make level paths for your feet to walk on. Only go on ways that are firm.</p> <p>²⁷ Don't turn to the right or left. Keep your feet from the path of evil.</p> <p>(Prov. 4:1-27 NIRV)</p>
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