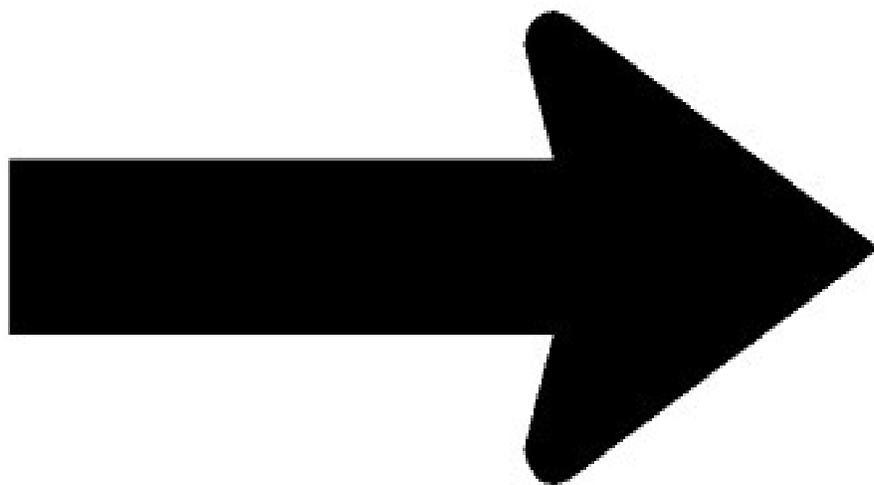


THIS

WAY

TO WISDOM





My child, how I will rejoice if you become wise.
Proverbs 23:15

Proverbs 3:13-14

Happy is the person who finds wisdom and gains understanding. For the profit of wisdom is better than silver, and her wages are better than gold.

Proverbs 4:7

Getting wisdom is the most important thing you can do! And whatever else you do, get good judgment.

Proverbs 8:11

For wisdom is far more valuable than rubies. Nothing you desire can be compared with it.

Proverbs 9:10-12

Fear of the Lord is the beginning of wisdom. Knowledge of the Holy One results in understanding. Wisdom will multiply your days and add years to your life. If you become wise, you will be the one to benefit. If you scorn wisdom, you will be the one to suffer.

Proverbs 16:16

How much better to get wisdom than gold, and understanding than silver!

Proverbs 19:8

To acquire wisdom is to love oneself; people who cherish understanding will prosper.

Proverbs 24:3-4

A house is built by wisdom and becomes strong through good sense. Through knowledge its rooms are filled with all sorts of precious riches and valuables.

Proverbs 24:5

A wise man is mightier than a strong man, and a man of knowledge is more powerful than a strong man.

Proverbs 25:28

A person without self-control is as defenseless as a city with broken-down walls.

Proverbs 28:26

Trusting oneself is foolish, but those who walk in wisdom are safe.



*Fear of the Lord is the beginning of knowledge.
Only fools despise wisdom and discipline.*

Proverbs 1:7

Proverbs 1:2-4

The purpose of these proverbs is to teach people wisdom and discipline, and to help them understand wise sayings. Through these proverbs, people will receive instruction in discipline, good conduct, and doing what is right, just, and fair. These proverbs will make the simpleminded clever. They will give knowledge and purpose to young people.

Proverbs 2:6-9

For the Lord grants wisdom! From his mouth come knowledge and understanding. He grants a treasure of good sense to the godly. He is their shield, protecting those who walk with integrity. He guards the paths of justice and protects those who are faithful to him. Then you will understand what is right, just, and fair, and you will know how to find the right course of action every time.

Proverbs 3:5-6

Trust in the Lord with all your heart; do not depend on your own understanding. Seek his will in all you do, and he will direct your paths.

Proverbs 14:26

Those who fear the Lord are secure; he will be a place of refuge for their children.

Proverbs 14:27

Fear of the Lord is a life-giving fountain; it offers escape from the snares of death.

Proverbs 15:16

It is better to have little with fear for the Lord than to have great treasure with turmoil.

Proverbs 15:33

Fear of the Lord teaches a person to be wise; humility precedes honor.

Proverbs 16:9

We can make our plans, but the Lord determines our steps.

Proverbs 16:33

We may throw the dice, but the Lord determines how they fall.

Proverbs 18:10

The name of the Lord is a strong fortress; the godly run to him and are safe.

Proverbs 19:21

You can make many plans, but the Lord's purpose will prevail.

Proverbs 19:23

Fear of the Lord gives life, security, and protection from harm.

Proverbs 20:24

How can we understand the road we travel? It is the Lord who directs our steps.

WORK ETHIC

*Hard work means prosperity;
only fools idle away their time.*

Proverbs 12:11

Proverbs 6:6-11

Take a lesson from the ants, you lazybones. Learn from their ways and be wise! Even though they have no prince, governor, or ruler to make them work, they labor hard all summer, gathering food for the winter. But you, lazybones, how long will you sleep? When will you wake up? I want you to learn this lesson: A little extra sleep, a little more slumber, a little folding of the hands to rest— and poverty will pounce on you like a bandit; scarcity will attack you like an armed robber.

Proverbs 10:4

Lazy people are soon poor; hard workers get rich.

Proverbs 10:5

A wise youth works hard all summer; a youth who sleeps away the hour of opportunity brings shame.

Proverbs 12:24

Work hard and become a leader; be lazy and become a slave.

Proverbs 13:4

Lazy people want much but get little, but those who work hard will prosper and be satisfied.

Proverbs 13:11

Wealth from get-rich-quick schemes quickly disappears; wealth from hard work grows.

Proverbs 14:23

Work brings profit, but mere talk leads to poverty!

Proverbs 15:19

A lazy person has trouble all through life; the path of the upright is easy!

Proverbs 18:9

A lazy person is as bad as someone who destroys things.

Proverbs 19:24

Some people are so lazy that they won't even lift a finger to feed themselves.

Proverbs 20:4

If you are too lazy to plow in the right season, you will have no food at the harvest.

Proverbs 21:5

Good planning and hard work lead to prosperity, but hasty shortcuts lead to poverty.

Proverbs 21:25

The desires of lazy people will be their ruin, for their hands refuse to work.

Proverbs 22:13

The lazy person is full of excuses, saying, "If I go outside, I might meet a lion in the street and be killed!"

Proverbs 22:29

Do you see any truly competent workers? They will serve kings rather than ordinary people.

Proverbs 24:30-34

I walked by the field of a lazy person, the vineyard of one lacking sense. I saw that it was overgrown with thorns. It was covered with weeds, and its walls were broken down. Then, as I looked and thought about it, I learned this lesson: A little extra sleep, a little more slumber, a little folding of the hands to rest— and poverty will pounce on you like a bandit; scarcity will attack you like an armed robber.

Proverbs 27:18

Workers who tend a fig tree are allowed to eat its fruit. In the same way, workers who protect their employer's interests will be rewarded.

Proverbs 28:19

Hard workers have plenty of food; playing around brings poverty.

INTEGRITY

People with integrity have firm footing, but those who follow crooked paths will slip and fall.

Proverbs 10:9

Proverbs 2:20-22

Follow the steps of good men instead, and stay on the paths of the righteous. For only the upright will live in the land, and those who have integrity will remain in it. But the wicked will be removed from the land, and the treacherous will be destroyed.

Proverbs 10:2

Ill-gotten gain has no lasting value, but right living can save your life.

Proverbs 11:1

The Lord hates cheating, but he delights in honesty.

Proverbs 11:3

Good people are guided by their honesty; treacherous people are destroyed by their dishonesty.

Proverbs 11:20

The Lord hates people with twisted hearts, but he delights in those who have integrity.

Proverbs 12:19

Truth stands the test of time; lies are soon exposed.

Proverbs 12:22

The Lord hates those who don't keep their word, but he delights in those who do.

Proverbs 15:27

Dishonest money brings grief to the whole family, but those who hate bribes will live.

Proverbs 16:8

It is better to be poor and godly than rich and dishonest.

Proverbs 17:3

Fire tests the purity of silver and gold, but the Lord tests the heart.

Proverbs 19:1

It is better to be poor and honest than to be a fool and dishonest.

Proverbs 20:7

The godly walk with integrity; blessed are their children after them.

Proverbs 20:10

The Lord despises double standards of every kind.

Proverbs 20:23

The Lord despises double standards; he is not pleased by dishonest scales.

Proverbs 22:1

Choose a good reputation over great riches, for being held in high esteem is better than having silver or gold.

Proverbs 28:6

It is better to be poor and honest than rich and crooked.

Proverbs 28:13

People who cover over their sins will not prosper. But if they confess and forsake them, they will receive mercy.

Proverbs 28:18

The honest will be rescued from harm, but those who are crooked will be destroyed.

SEXUAL PURITY

The man who commits adultery is an utter fool, for he destroys his own soul. Wounds and constant disgrace are his lot. His shame will never be erased.

Proverbs 6:32-33

Proverbs 5:3-11

The lips of an immoral woman are as sweet as honey, and her mouth is smoother than oil. But the result is as bitter as poison, sharp as a double-edged sword. Her feet go down to death; her steps lead straight to the grave. For she does not care about the path to life. She staggers down a crooked trail and doesn't even realize where it leads. So now, my sons, listen to me. Never stray from what I am about to say: Run from her! Don't go near the door of her house! If you do, you will lose your honor and hand over to merciless people everything you have achieved in life. Strangers will obtain your wealth, and someone else will enjoy the fruit of your labor. Afterward you will groan in anguish when disease consumes your body...

Proverbs 5:15-20

Drink water from your own well—share your love only with your wife. Why spill the water of your springs in public, having sex with just anyone? You should reserve it for yourselves. Don't share it with strangers. Let your wife be a fountain of blessing for you. Rejoice in the wife of your youth. She is a loving doe, a graceful deer. Let her breasts satisfy you always. May you always be captivated by her love. Why be captivated, my son, with an immoral woman, or embrace the breasts of an adulterous woman?

Proverbs 6:24-29

These commands and this teaching will keep you from the immoral woman, from the smooth tongue of an adulterous woman. Don't lust for her beauty. Don't let her coyness seduce you. For a prostitute will bring you to poverty, and sleeping with another man's wife may cost you your very life. Can a man scoop fire into his lap and not be burned? Can he walk on hot coals and not blister his feet? So it is with the man who sleeps with another man's wife. He who embraces her will not go unpunished.

Proverbs 7:6-11

I was looking out the window of my house one day and saw a simpleminded young man who lacked common sense. He was crossing the street near the house of an immoral woman. He was strolling down the path by her house at twilight, as the day was fading, as the dark of night set in. The woman approached him, dressed seductively and sly of heart. She was the brash, rebellious type who never stays at home.

Proverbs 7:13-19

She threw her arms around him and kissed him, and with a brazen look she said, "I've offered my sacrifices and just finished my vows. It's you I was looking for! I came out to find you, and here you are! My bed is spread with colored sheets of finest linen imported from Egypt. I've perfumed my bed with myrrh, aloes, and cinnamon. Come, let's drink our fill of love until morning. Let's enjoy each other's caresses, for my husband is not home. He's away on a long trip.

Proverbs 7:21-27

So she seduced him with her pretty speech. With her flattery she enticed him. He followed her at once, like an ox going to the slaughter or like a trapped stag, awaiting the arrow that would pierce its heart. He was like a bird flying into a snare, little knowing it would cost him his life. Listen to me, my sons, and pay attention to my words. Don't let your hearts stray away toward her. Don't wander down her wayward path. For she has been the ruin of many; numerous men have been her victims. Her house is the road to the grave. Her bedroom is the den of death.

Proverbs 23:27-28

A prostitute is a deep pit; an adulterous woman is treacherous. She hides and waits like a robber, looking for another victim who will be unfaithful to his wife.

EDUCATION

*A wise person is hungry for truth,
while the fool feeds on trash.*

Proverbs 15:14

Proverbs 8:10

Choose my instruction rather than silver, and knowledge over pure gold.

Proverbs 10:14

Wise people treasure knowledge, but the babbling of a fool invites trouble.

Proverbs 12:1

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

Proverbs 12:15

Fools think they need no advice, but the wise listen to others.

Proverbs 13:13

People who despise advice will find themselves in trouble; those who respect it will succeed.

Proverbs 13:18

If you ignore criticism, you will end in poverty and disgrace; if you accept criticism, you will be honored.

Proverbs 15:2

The wise person makes learning a joy; fools spout only foolishness.

Proverbs 15:22

Plans go wrong for lack of advice; many counselors bring success.

Proverbs 15:31

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

Proverbs 15:32

If you reject criticism, you only harm yourself; but if you listen to correction, you grow in understanding.

Proverbs 16:20

Those who listen to instruction will prosper; those who trust the Lord will be happy.

Proverbs 18:15

Intelligent people are always open to new ideas. In fact, they look for them.

Proverbs 19:20

Get all the advice and instruction you can, and be wise the rest of your life.

Proverbs 19:27

If you stop listening to instruction, my child, you have turned your back on knowledge.

Proverbs 20:18

Plans succeed through good counsel; don't go to war without the advice of others.

Proverbs 23:12

Commit yourself to instruction; attune your ears to hear words of knowledge.

Proverbs 29:1

Whoever stubbornly refuses to accept criticism will suddenly be broken beyond repair.



*The earnings of the godly enhance their lives,
but evil people squander their money on sin.*

Proverbs 10:16

Proverbs 3:9-10

Honor the Lord with your wealth and with the best part of everything your land produces. Then he will fill your barns with grain, and your vats will overflow with the finest wine.

Proverbs 6:1-5

My child, if you co-sign a loan for a friend or guarantee the debt of someone you hardly know— if you have trapped yourself by your agreement and are caught by what you said— quick, get out of it if you possibly can! You have placed yourself at your friend's mercy. Now swallow your pride; go and beg to have your name erased. Don't put it off. Do it now! Don't rest until you do. Save yourself like a deer escaping from a hunter, like a bird fleeing from a net.

Proverbs 11:15

Guaranteeing a loan for a stranger is dangerous; it is better to refuse than to suffer later.

Proverbs 11:24

It is possible to give freely and become more wealthy, but those who are stingy will lose everything.

Proverbs 11:25

The generous prosper and are satisfied; those who refresh others will themselves be refreshed.

Proverbs 11:28

Trust in your money and down you go! But the godly flourish like leaves in spring.

Proverbs 13:11

Wealth from get-rich-quick schemes quickly disappears; wealth from hard work grows.

Proverbs 13:22

Good people leave an inheritance to their grandchildren, but the sinner's wealth passes to the godly.

Proverbs 16:11

The Lord demands fairness in every business deal; he sets the standard.

Proverbs 17:18

It is poor judgment to co-sign a friend's note, to become responsible for a neighbor's debts.

Proverbs 19:17

If you help the poor, you are lending to the Lord—and he will repay you!

Proverbs 20:21

An inheritance obtained early in life is not a blessing in the end.

Proverbs 21:20

The wise have wealth and luxury, but fools spend whatever they get.

Proverbs 22:26

Do not co-sign another person's note or put up a guarantee for someone else's loan.

Proverbs 24:27

Develop your business first before building your house.

Proverbs 27:12

A prudent person foresees the danger ahead and takes precautions. The simpleton goes blindly on and suffers the consequences.

Proverbs 27:23-27

Know the state of your flocks, and put your heart into caring for your herds, for riches don't last forever, and the crown might not be secure for the next generation. After the hay is harvested, the new crop appears, and the mountain grasses are gathered in, your sheep will provide wool for clothing, and your goats will be sold for the price of a field. And you will have enough goats' milk for you, your family, and your servants.

Proverbs 28:8

A person who makes money by charging interest will lose it. It will end up in the hands of someone who is kind to the poor.

Proverbs 28:20

The trustworthy will get a rich reward. But the person who wants to get rich quick will only get into trouble.

Proverbs 28:22

A greedy person tries to get rich quick, but it only leads to poverty.

Proverbs 30:24-25

There are four things on earth that are small but unusually wise:
Ants—they aren't strong, but they store up food for the winter.