

BIBLE TEXT | PROVERBS 23:22-28

- 22 Listen to your father who gave you life, and do not despise your mother when she is old.
- **23** Buy truth, and do not sell it buy wisdom, instruction, and understanding
- **24** The father of the righteous will greatly rejoice; he who fathers a wise son will be glad in him.
- 25 Let your father and mother be glad; let her who bore you rejoice.

- **26** My son, give me your heart, and let your eyes observe my ways.
- **27** For a prostitute is a deep pit; an adulteress is a narrow well.
- **28** She lies in wait like a robber and increases the traitors among mankind.

DEVOTIONAL FOR PROVERBS 23:22-28

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I can look back and know that my parents desired a lot of things for us. But by far I know their greatest joy was watching us come to know Jesus, and then continuing to watch us grow and be transformed by Him.

I have this same desire for my own small children. I can find myself wondering what my children will be like when they are older. What sports or activities will they excel in? How will they succeed or struggle in school? My mind can spin with all the "what wills" and the "what ifs". But the Lord is kind to gently reel my mind back in line with His. He reminds me that there will be no greater joy than my children knowing Him and walking in His truth and wisdom. Everything else is pale by comparison. So, we pray and plead on their behalf, that they come to know and love Him.





Proverbs 23:22-25 plainly states that it will bring parents much joy to know that their children walk in truth. And that once they know it, they will never walk back on it, but continue to live a life of "wisdom, instruction, and understanding" (verse 23).

Then Proverbs 23:26-28 tells us that our eyes should be captivated by the Lord. The only way to protect ourselves from allowing sin to take a stronghold is to give our hearts to the Lord and allow our eyes to delight in ONLY his ways. The things of the world are dangerous and are waiting to steal our joy in the father. Proverbs 4:5 says, "Get wisdom, get insight; do not forget, and do not turn away from the words of my mouth." We know true wisdom comes from the Lord. We can only fight against the world if we have it.

Questions:

- 1. Where do you gain your wisdom and insight from?
- 2. Have you ever sold out on truth from the Lord for something the world claims to be truth?
- 3. What are your eyes delighting in?

