

## SERMON OUTLINE

**SERMON TITLE:** How to Be the Father of a Wise Child

**SERMON REFERENCE:** Proverbs 1:1-5, 20-22

**LWF SERMON NUMBER:** #1932

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1) INTRODUCTION

- a) There are many children who will be shipwrecked in life because of the pride and arrogance of their fathers.
  - i) These fathers will not do what they ought to do in order to guide those children to a safe and secure haven.
- b) Proverbs 1:1-5, 20-22
- c) In Proverbs 1:22, we see the evolution of a fool.
  - i) Children begin as simple.
    - (1) The word “simple” means “open,” “naive.”
      - (a) The Hebrew word for “simple” is “open.”
      - (2) The word “simple” has nothing to do with intellectual ability.
      - (3) A simple child may grow up to be a doctor, a lawyer, an architect, a politician, or even a minister.
    - ii) The next step mentioned in this verse is that of the scorner.
      - (1) The scorner is different from the simple.
        - (a) The simple is more or less innocent.
        - (2) A scorner is a smart-aleck, a cynic.
      - iii) The next step is the fool.
        - (1) Another word for “fool” is “rebel” or “arrogant” or “wicked.”
        - (2) The word “fool” does not have the idea that a person is lacking in mental abilities.
          - (a) This word has a moral base.
          - (b) It means “without any ability to discern.”
    - d) We are in serious trouble in America.
      - i) In 1962, prayer in public schools was declared unconstitutional.
      - ii) In 1963, Bible reading in public schools was declared unconstitutional.
      - iii) In 1973, the killing of pre-born children was declared to be a right guaranteed by the Constitution.
      - iv) In 1980, it was deemed to be illegal to post the Ten Commandments on school walls.
      - v) Secular humanists have targeted public education to be the Sunday schools for their humanistic philosophy.
        - (1) In so doing, they have purged any vestige of Christian influence from our schools.
      - vi) Today in our schools:
        - (1) Prayer is out, and policemen are in.
        - (2) Bibles are out, and values clarification is in.
        - (3) The Ten Commandments are out; and rape, armed robbery, gang warfare, and murder are in.
        - (4) Creationism is out, and evolution is in.
        - (5) Corporal punishment is out, and disrespect and rebellion are in.
        - (6) Abstinence is out, and abortion is in.
        - (7) Learning is out, and social engineering is in.
        - (8) History is out, and revisionism is in.

- e) The problem is primarily with arrogant fathers who fail to accept their responsibility.
- f) Today's message will show dads how not to be the father of a fool, but instead, how to be the father of a wise child.

2) THE SIMPLE (PROVERBS 1:22)

- a) Proverbs 1:22
- b) The simple loves simplicity.
  - i) He enjoys being a child.
  - ii) He enjoys the carefree life and doesn't like any serious thoughts.
- c) The simple lacks understanding.
  - i) Proverbs 9:1-4
    - (1) Wisdom has prepared a banquet of learning, knowledge and truth, and has invited the simple to the table.
    - ii) He may one day be a lawyer or a banker or a surgeon, but he lacks spiritual wisdom and spiritual understanding.
      - (1) He just doesn't know.
  - d) The simple is easily led into error.
    - i) Proverbs 14:15
      - (1) He is easily led.
    - ii) This doesn't mean that he doesn't believe something.
      - (1) He will believe anything.
      - (2) He is an easy target for marketers, false religions and sinful friends.
    - iii) He is easily led into error because he's so open.
- e) A child doesn't look forward or plan for the future; therefore, he's living in danger.
  - i) Proverbs 14:15
  - ii) Proverbs 22:3
    - (1) A person who is wise and prudent sees the danger.
    - (2) But the simple child thinks that he is indestructible.
      - (a) He never thinks about the future and is like an animal led to slaughter.
  - iii) He has no idea about danger.

3) THE SCORNER (PROVERBS 1:22)

- a) The next step after a person is naïve is that he becomes (if he is not taught by his parents) a smart-aleck.
- b) Proverbs 1:22
- c) He delights in his scorning.
  - i) He enjoys being a smart-aleck.
- d) He defies instruction.
  - i) Proverbs 13:1
  - ii) A scorners will not listen.
- e) He despises the good and the godly.

- i) Proverbs 15:12
  - ii) A scorner will not go to his father or teacher or youth pastor and ask for help.
  - iii) Rebuke a scorner, and he will insult you.
    - (1) Proverbs 9:7-8
  - f) He is destined for destruction.
    - i) He was once simple, but he became a scorner.
    - ii) Proverbs 13:1, 13
    - iii) He won't listen and will laugh at you.
    - iv) If a scorner is not reclaimed, he will be lost for eternity.
  - g) The scorner is very hard to reach, but there is some hope for the scorner.
- 4) THE FOOL (PROVERBS 1:22)
- a) Proverbs 1:22
    - i) The scorner is insolent, but the fool is immovable.
  - b) The fool rejects wisdom.
    - i) He hates wisdom.
    - ii) Proverbs 15:14
      - (1) He loves foolishness.
  - c) He ridicules righteousness.
    - i) Proverbs 14:9
    - ii) This is why there are sitcoms on television that laugh at drunkenness, adultery, and perversion.
    - iii) Fools mock at sin.
  - d) He rejoices in iniquity.
    - i) Proverbs 15:20-21
    - ii) He rejoices in wickedness.
    - iii) His moral sense has been so perverted that he thinks good is evil and evil is good.
      - (1) Isaiah 5:20
  - e) The fool will die and go to Hell.
    - i) Proverbs 17:10
    - ii) His heart is hardened, his conscience is seared, and his mind is defiled.
  - f) If he were a wise child, he could still go wrong.
    - i) But if he went wrong and God chastised him, he would then repent.
      - (1) Hebrews 12:6
    - ii) King David sinned terribly, but he was a wise man in spite of his sin.
      - (1) When God chastised him, he repented and cried out to God for mercy.
    - iii) In contrast, Pharaoh was a fool.
      - (1) When God judged Pharaoh, he just hardened his heart more and more.
  - g) Little children start out as simple.
    - i) If we're not careful, society will turn a child into a smart-aleck.
    - ii) If he is not rescued when he becomes a smart-aleck and a scorner, then he will become a fool and will be eternally lost.

- h) There are four things that parents can do to not raise a fool:
  - i) Expound truth.
    - (1) Proverbs 1:1-4
    - (2) Saturate your children in the book of Proverbs.
    - (3) Emblazon the Ten Commandments into children's consciousness.
    - (4) Teach them the Beatitudes.
    - (5) The battle is for the mind.
      - (a) As a child thinks, so is he.
    - (6) The major teacher in the home is the father.
      - (a) Deuteronomy 5-6
        - (i) God gave the Ten Commandments in chapter 5 and then instructed fathers to teach these commandments to their children so that their families will survive and their homes will endure.
  - ii) Expose sin.
    - (1) The simple will learn by example.
    - (2) Proverbs 19:25
      - (a) A child who is carefree, careless and simple, needs to see the scorner punished.
      - (b) He needs to see sin exposed and the fruit of sin.
    - (3) Proverbs 21:11
      - (a) The worst thing that could happen to your child is for him or her to live in such a sinful society as we have today and, yet, not see the repercussions of sin.
        - (i) For instance, children watch immorality on television, but they don't see the aftermath it causes, such as a broken home.
    - (4) Society today shrinks from punishing criminals; therefore, we are producing more criminals.
      - (a) Ecclesiastes 8:11
      - (b) When children see criminals back on the street shortly after an arrest, then they see no connection between crime and punishment.
  - iii) Expel scorners.
    - (1) Proverbs 13:20
    - (2) Proverbs 22:10
    - (3) Don't let your children hang around with scorners and fools.
      - (a) Help them select their friends.
        - (i) This means that you may have to be firm and cast out the scorners.
      - (b) If your child is naïve and simple, then he or she will be susceptible to peer pressure.
        - (i) Peer pressure doesn't have to be bad.
          - 1. Peer pressure can be good if the peers are good.

- a. All the more reason that you need to surround your children with the right friends.
  - b. All the more reason to make your home the headquarters for happiness and invite your children's friends into your home.
  - c. When your children and their friends spend time at your home, you can then monitor those friends.
  - d. If there is a scorner or a fool in the bunch, then cast them out.
- (c) Have people in your home who know and love God and are people of high character.
- (i) Allow your children to interact with them and be present around the dinner table so that they can enjoy and participate in the conversation.
- iv) Express love.
- (1) Proverbs 3:12
    - (a) Love your children and delight in them.
  - (2) Be positive, and don't ever be negative.
    - (a) Words can hurt your children.
  - (3) Learn to listen to them.
    - (a) Try to see life from their point of view.
  - (4) Be gentle.
    - (a) There is one characteristic that is found in dads whose children love and follow them, and that is gentleness.
    - (b) Children want a dad who is gentle.
  - (5) Be transparent.
    - (a) Let your children know of your fears, your joys, your disappointments, your failures and your goals.
    - (b) They already know you're not perfect.
      - (i) They don't want you to be a phony.
  - (6) Be available.
    - (a) Make it a priority to be available to your children.

## 5) CONCLUSION

- a) No one has what it takes to be the kind of parent we ought to be.
  - i) This is one of the many reasons why we need Jesus.
- b) The Christian life is not difficult; it's impossible.
  - i) There is only one who can do it, and that is Jesus.
  - ii) But He will do it in us and through us if we will let Him.
- c) The best thing you can do for your children is to love God with all of your heart.
- d) Give your heart to Jesus Christ today.
- e) Pray to Him and ask Him to come into your life.

- f) Call upon Jesus today. Repent (turn) from your sins, and turn to Jesus. Ask Him to forgive you of your sins, and acknowledge Him as Lord of your life.
  - i) Romans 3:23
  - ii) Romans 10:9-10
  - iii) Romans 10:13
  - iv) Acts 16:31
  - v) John 3:16