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Proverbs Lesson 4

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Prov 23:23 “**Buy truth**, and do not sell it, Get wisdom and instruction and understanding.”

Prov 4:27 NIV “though it **cost all** you have, get understanding”

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Three sections of instructions in Prov. 4:

Instruction #1:

- Prov 4:5-9 (from the grandfather): Get Wisdom!

Wisdom = living “in tune with God’s Spirit in such a way that we make healthy, life-giving choices that, ultimately, bring glory to God.”

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Two observations on getting wisdom:

1. There is a cost to getting wisdom; takes time, takes effort, may involve a financial sacrifice.
2. Getting true, Biblical wisdom is worth whatever sacrifice you must make to get it.

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Three sections of instructions in Prov. 4:**Instruction #1:**

- Prov 4:5-9 (from the grandfather): Get Wisdom!

Instruction #2:

- Prov 4:10-19 “Walk in Wisdom!”

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Ex 20:12 “Honor your father and your mother, **that your days may be prolonged** in the land which the LORD your God gives you.”

Eph 6:2-3 “Honor your father and mother (which is the first commandment with a promise) so that it may be well with you, and that **you may live long** on the earth.”

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Prov 4:11

“Directed,” “taught” = YARA = to throw, cast, or shoot; to point in the right direction in the way of wisdom.

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Positive commands regarding wisdom in Prov. 4:13:

- “Take hold”
- “Do not let go”
- “Guard her”

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Negative commands regarding the path of the wicked in Prov. 4:14-15:

- “Do not enter the path of the wicked”
- “Do not proceed in the way of evil men”
- “Avoid it”
- “Do not pass by it”
- “Turn away from it”
- “Pass on”

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The characteristics of the evil man (ch 2):

- His speech: (2:12) speaks perverse things = twisted, distorted
- His walk: (2:13) leaves the path of uprightness; walks in darkness; void of spiritual light
- His desires: (2:14) delights in doing evil; rejoices in its perversity = has a dull conscience
- His ways: (2:15) crooked paths, devious ways = deceptive, deceiving and self-deceived.

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Instruction #3:

- Prov 4:20-27 “Have a Heart of Wisdom!”

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Proverbs 4:23

“The heart” = the center of the emotions, encompasses the mind, the emotions, and the will; the whole innermost being. **The heart is the place where, ultimately, we make our choices.**

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Prov 4:23: "Watch over **your heart** with all diligence, for **from it flow the springs of life.**"

John 7:38 Jesus said, "He who believes in Me, as the Scripture said, '**From his innermost being will flow rivers of living water.**'"

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Luke 6:45 Jesus said, "The good man **out of the good treasure of his heart** brings forth what is good; and the evil man out of the evil treasure brings forth what is evil; for **his mouth speaks from that which fills his heart.**"

Matt 12:34 "...how can you, being evil, speak what is good? **For the mouth speaks out of that which fills the heart.**"

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Prov 4:23: "Watch over [guard] your heart with all diligence, for from it flow the springs of life."

Rom 10:9-10 "...if you **confess with your mouth** Jesus as Lord, and believe in your heart that God raised Him from the dead, you will be saved; for **with the heart a person believes, resulting in righteousness, and with the mouth he confesses, resulting in salvation.**"

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