

A Path to Take

△ Proverbs 2

"Sharing Chocolate" Story

Last week what is proverbs for

Obtaining: wisdom, discipline,
understanding, insight

Doing: right, just and fair

Teaching: Prudence , knowledge
and discretion

Listening to learning, and
guidance

Understanding the proverbs itself

But: it begins with the fear of the
Lord

This week: A path to take or
the search for wisdom

Or: how can we live according to
the wisdom

Reminder: this is a Father
speaking to his Son

Therefore may feel in excludes women

Or even portray women in a bad light

The adultress

BUT IN OUR WORLD OF EQUALITY

The wicked men could be women

The adulteress could be an adulter

And the son be a daughter

and the father be the mother!

1. Being wise is work

^ 2:1-11

a. What to do to get it

^ 2:1-5

The search for wisdom is really the search for God

verbs: accept, store or treasure, turning your ear/making your ear attentive, applying or inclining your heart, call or cry for insight, cry aloud or raise your voice, look, search

Rare: silver, hidden treasure.

The outcome of this desperate search:

God gives

We do not find it, but God gives to those who search earnestly

b. it is a gift of God

^ 2:6-11

But not only the wisdom, knowledge and understanding

but also victory, a shield, a guard, protection

As a changed personality: upright, blameless, just and faithful

Interlude: Heart

Hebrew Heart (leb)

Dutch: lef is from this: courage, nerve or guts

Can be just the organ

internal wellspring of the acting self

No difference between head and heart, logic and emotions

Heart includes all that: it is the locus of a person's will, thinking and feeling

A deepest depth of the heart is the unconsciousness or subconsciousness

Above all else, guard your heart,
for everything you do flows from it.

[^] Prov 4:23

So the heart in the Bible is the core and the centre of our being

Where God ministers to us

²⁶ I will give you a new heart and put a new spirit in you; I will remove from you your heart of stone and give you a heart of flesh. ²⁷ And I will put my Spirit in you and move you to follow my decrees and be careful to keep my laws. ²⁸ Then you will live in the land I gave your ancestors; you will be my people, and I will be your God.

[^] Ezek 36:26-28

△ 2:12-15

Understanding of righteousness,
justice and fairness

Wisdom residing in our hearts

knowledge in our souls

discretion/prudence - capacity
for private and hidden thought

Understanding

All leading to further protection
and guarding

Living in the fear of God protects
our hearts and souls

3. Two examples of wrong situations

Which wisdom protects from

a. Evil or wicked actions

In the form of men/women leading
the boy/girl into wrong actions

leaving straight paths, going in dark
ways

delight & rejoice in doing wrong, evil
and deviousness

b. Evil or wrong desires

In the form of the adulteress

Sexual in nature in this case

But result is leading the innocent

But resulting in breaking the covenant with his (future) wife or husband or the adulterer/res husband or wife

Resulting in a breaking of the covenant with God

Which leads to death and is irreversible

Summary: The call is really: how do you want to live your life

You can take the path of evil and desire and be led astray

For Israel this meant that they were cut off from the land of Israel

What would it mean for us: to be cut off from Jesus!?

Yes, sin and wrongdoing cuts us off from him

Forgiveness and repentance restores our relationship with him

But there is always a cost

Or you can take a path of searching for God

This is however, never ending

There is no place of standing still = enjoying the status quo

There is always evil that we protection from, there is always temptations

The searching for God keeps us from

The searching for God keeps us from searching other things

God knows that we need to remain active

And God is every bigger than what we can see, know or obtain

There is always more to learn about God and from God

Like a relationship: if you have friends but have not met for a long time, the friendship diminishes

God/Jesus/HS wants us to search him, meet with him, be in the presence of

And if we do - we not only obtain wisdom, knowledge and all the other things

We are fulfilled in our most inward beings

Our hearts!

Prayer for God's wisdom
established in relationship
with him