



There are two basic ways we all learn about life and how life works. How would you describe each in your own words? What's the value of each? As we walk through life, do we need them both? Can we get along as our Creator intended with just one?

🎧 _____ from others (_____ experience) -

🎧 _____ & error (_____ experience) -

Proverbs talks a lot about the need to open our ears and guard our hearts. There is wise instruction we can learn from others that will help us. But there is also input from some that we need to be very careful about *not* listening to.

_____, my son, your father's instruction,
and forsake not your mother's teaching,
for they are a graceful garland for your head
and pendants for your neck.

My son, if _____ entice you,
do not consent. (*Prov 1:8-10*)

What are we being told about the value and danger of input from others? How can we know who we ought to listen to and who we ought to be very skeptical about listening to?

Let's read *Proverbs 1:20-33* together as a class. How would you summarize what we're being told from the very beginning of this big book of *Proverbs*?

Proverbs 2 is all about the value of God's wisdom. What do you see there? What makes it so valuable? What impact can it have on our walk through life?

Let's listen very carefully to the instruction of Proverbs 3:5-8:

_____ in the LORD with all your heart,
and do not lean on your _____ understanding.

In all your ways _____ him,
and he will make straight your paths.

Be not wise in your own eyes;
_____ the LORD, and turn away from evil.

It will be healing to your flesh
and refreshment to your bones.

What will it look like in everyday terms to "trust in the LORD" with "all" of my heart? Notice also the input of 3:11-12. If I trust God...

Finally, Proverbs 4:20-27 summarizes everything we've talked about so far: open your ears (4:20-22) and guard your heart.

_____ your heart with all vigilance,
for from it _____ the springs of life. (4:23)

What does God mean when he talks about our "hearts"? Why do we need to guard them? What's that going to look like this week?

Proverbs Made Personal

Warning: a message of caution I needed to hear...

Insight: a point I need to remember...

Strength: I was helped and encouraged to walk in wisdom by...

Exalt: God is worthy of honor and praise because...

For next week: read Proverbs 5-7