

“Do not forsake your mother’s teaching!”
Proverbs 1:7-9 May 13, 2018

Our focus on this Mother’s Day is a passage from the wisdom book of Proverbs, written by King Solomon. While much of the book consists of short, pithy statements (proverbs) which express timeless truths and wisdom about life, today’s message comes from Solomon’s introduction to the book. In it he announces one of the central themes of Proverbs – *the fear of the Lord*, which is followed by an admonition for children to listen carefully and heed their parent’s instruction, and not forsake it as they grow older.

While King Solomon’s words are straightforward, they are rooted in some of the most essential and foundational truths in Scripture having to do with the family. This being the case, our emphasis as well as the application, will be significantly broader than motherhood, encompassing truths which are important to everyone involved in any season of family life.

It is important to remember that Solomon’s wisdom came to him from God in response to his humble prayer when he became king over Israel. While Solomon failed later in life to live out the truths he had received, his wise words were nevertheless God-given and as such, are deserving of our careful, prayerful consideration.

1. The family has its _____ in God.

2. The family is God’s chosen _____ for instructing children on how to live in the world.

3. The most _____ truth in family instruction is the fear of the Lord.

4. God designed both fathers and mothers _____ in the responsibility for family instruction.

5. God's Word commands sons and daughters to listen carefully and to not _____ the teaching of their parents.

6. God promises a _____ for sons and daughters who do not forsake the teaching of their mothers and fathers.