

**FOCUS**  
Cultural Issue

**TITLE**  
Listening to Dad

**REFERENCE**  
Proverbs 4:1–5

• brown merit •

# Proverbs

... LESSON 5

• FOR THE LEADER

• PREP



## FOR THE LEADER

### WHAT IT'S ALL ABOUT:

A godly young man will honor his father and the godly male role models in his life. He will also find other mentors while in healthy peer relationships that encourage growth in Christ.

### THINK ABOUT IT:

- What does a godly father look like?
- What responsibilities do we have to godly men, our fathers, and the other men in our life?



## PREP

None

• Notes •

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# Proverbs

... LESSON 5

· READ



· REFLECT



· RESPOND



## READ

*Listen, my sons, to a father's instruction; pay attention and gain understanding. I give you sound learning, so do not forsake my teaching. When I was a boy in my father's house, still tender, and an only child of my mother, he taught me and said, "Lay hold of my words with all your heart; keep my commands and you will live. Get wisdom, get understanding; do not forget my words or swerve from them. Proverbs 4:1–5*

What is the most recent piece of advice you have received from your dad or a major male role model? What did he say? How did you take it? There is something very important about a father or father figure's words to his son. A godly man will speak words that are wise and that should be followed. Unfortunately, the world we live in has too few dads who are following God and speaking words of wisdom to their sons.

Godly men should take time to speak to and teach their sons how men should behave. Have you and your dad ever talked about work, how men should treat women, how to be a good friend, or how to live? You may have a godly dad who has spent time with you teaching you these things, but many young men grow up without that. Thank the Lord for great Royal Rangers leaders who can act as a father figure at times.

If you are privileged to have a godly dad, your job as a son is to listen to his teaching and wisdom, and to learn from it. Nobody is perfect, even your dad, but he undoubtedly has a ton of amazing things to teach you. Take note of the things he has taught you about life, family, and work. Also remember that dads don't just teach you by what they say, but by what they do too.

If you are not in a home with a godly dad, then you can find a godly man and allow him to teach you these things. Your church is full of godly men who can teach you how a man who follows God should live.

You need to learn how to honor, respect, and obey your dad, even if he is not a godly man. You can be a great witness and example to him by demonstrating a life of Christian excellence. Honor your dad, love your dad, and pray that he will become a godly man.

No matter how old you get, you will never reach a place in life that you don't need godly men to mentor you and give you wisdom. Even pastors, presidents, and principals have mentors they look to and learn from. A smart man will not only have mentors, but also a group of men relatively close to his age that he can relate to and share experiences with. As godly men, we need to lean on other godly men for support as we follow God's plan.

**PRAYER:** God, thank You for the godly male influences in my life. I thank You for the godly things I have learned from them. Help me to be a good son, to listen, to learn, and to apply the wisdom shown to me. Help me to live with integrity and respect before my dad every day. In Jesus' name. Amen.



REFLECT

As a group, discuss the things that your dad or a godly male influence does that are most important to you. What are some things that you have learned that you will definitely keep with you and that you will pass on? Discuss with the group ways that you could start passing on wisdom today to your siblings or people younger than you.



RESPOND

We all have a decision to make. One day we will be grown up. Most of us will get married and have children. We can decide today what kind of father we will be and the godly wisdom we will pass on to the next generation. This week, take time to decide what kind of man you want to be. Start collecting words and thoughts of wisdom to pass on to your children. It seems like a long way away, but there is a lot of wisdom out there you don't want to forget.

**7-DAY BIBLE READING PLAN**  
 Sunday ·  
 Monday ·  
 Tuesday ·  
 Wednesday ·  
 Thursday ·  
 Friday ·  
 Saturday ·

The *Fire Bible: Student Edition* provides a reading plan that follows a two-year design for reading the entire Bible. Follow that reading plan in order to earn the green Bible Reading merit.

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