Proverbs 13:14 & 24

**14. A wise person’s instruction is a fountain of life, turning people away from the snares of death. 24. The one who will not use the rod hates his son, but the one who loves him disciplines him diligently.**

There are many good proverbs that are still in use today. Some of those include, Rome was not built in a day, Absence makes the heart grow fonder, For us hunters the early bird catches the worm, Every cloud has a silver lining, and my personal favorite to use at work To many chiefs not enough Indians. This proverb that Solomon wrote in verse 24 is probably the most famous and that is in our terms “Spare the rod, spoil the child”. I am sure the children in the congregation today love that one as well.

A lot of wisdom is in that one statement of sparing the rod and spoiling the child. If we break it down and look elsewhere in the bible you will find that a loving Father chastises His children when they do wrong. He does not not because He hates them or feels utter contempt for them, quite the opposite. He chastises and corrects us because He loves us. Our Father in Heaven has set a perfect example on how a loving Father is supposed to be. It is full of self-sacrifice, discipline and above all unconditional love for all. As fathers we love our children more than they will ever know until they get children of their own and they will understand. God is the same way towards us.

As for the first proverb that was chosen today, it goes hand in hand with the second. If you are wise you will listen to your heavenly Fathers advice and take heed of the words they say. This also goes for most fathers here on earth. They have lived longer than their children and no matter what age we are, if our dads are still with us, take their advice most of the time they know what they are talking about. My father still gives me advice and sometimes I ignore such advice and it generally ends up backfiring on me. The same can be said about the Word of God. We have a blueprint to get us closer to Jesus in writing, but like all children we rebel and try it our own way and it ends up terrible for us.

Remember this week to continue in your Word and keep praying to your Father in heaven. He hears you and will always be there for us. Deuteronomy 31:6 “*6 Be strong and courageous; don’t be terrified or afraid of them. For the Lord your God is the one who will go with you; he will not leave you or abandon you.”*

CMTTP