

**Introduction:** We all learn in three basic ways. We can listen to experts speaking about their specialty. Or, we can observe talented people doing what they do best. Finally, taking what we have heard and seen, we truly learn something by doing it. Only after much practicing of what we have heard and seen can it be said about us that we have learned something. \*\*\* Humanly speaking, children learn best in families from both parents: their mother and father. Not only do children learn about different subjects from their parents, more importantly, they learn about relationships from observing the relationship of their mother and father. This puts a lot of pressure on parents, especially fathers. Some handle it well; and, tragically, some do not. \*\*\* The Good News for all people who can receive it and act on it is that God is THE Perfect Father. And, He desires to help all human parents to teach their children about Him and His ways; and, also instruct them about the world He created and how they may creatively work with Him and under Him to make it better. \*\*\* The key people in our passages this morning are God, David and Solomon. David trusts God to teach him His ways, and he asks to be forgiven by God on account of His goodness and His Name. Then David proclaims that the covenant God will instruct the man who lives by fearing Him, God speaking as a Father to His son. \*\*\* Despite his two great sins that preceded Solomon's conception and birth, David instructed Solomon in God's ways. Then Solomon instructed his sons, as well as all God's children, by the inspiration of The Holy Spirit.

***Men instruct children in God's ways***

All men can be spiritual fathers. So, now let's dig deeper to learn how parents, especially fathers, can be successful by God's grace.

**I. I have trusted God and am waiting in Him so He will teach me and remember His steadfast LOVE, not my transgressions. (Psalm 25:1-7)**

- A. I have trusted God and I am waiting in Him to not be put to shame as are the treacherous. (Verses 1-3)
- To Thee, Yahweh, my soul I will lift up / My God, in Thee I have trusted. (Verses 1-2a)  
**Lift up soul:** David pledges that he always lifts up his soul, his very life, to Yahweh, THE One True covenant God of all creation.  
**Trusted:** And, he declares that, for many years until now, he has trusted in this God to be his God.
  - Not I will be put to shame / not they will exult, my enemies over me. (Verse 2b)  
**Urgent appeals:** Both of these requests: that he will not be ashamed and his enemies will not exult over him, are both specific and about an immediate need David asks his God to do for him.
  - Moreover, all waiting in Thee will not be ashamed / will be ashamed those transgressing without cause. (Verse 3)  
**Waiting:** God will not allow people with a lifestyle of always waiting in expectant hope to be ashamed by their enemies. And, as Isaiah spoke, Yahweh will renew their strength to run and not be weary and to walk and not be faint, and someday to mount up on eagle's wings (Isaiah 40:31).
- B. Teach me, God of my salvation, and remember Thy compassion and steadfast LOVE, not my sins and transgressions, on account of Thy goodness. (Verses 4-7)
- Thy ways, O Yahweh, Thou must make me to know / Thy paths, Thou must teach me / Thou must lead me in Thy truth and Thou must teach me. (Verses 4-5a)  
**Make, teach and lead:** David requests his God to make him know His ways, teach him His paths and lead him in absolute truth. 'Ways' are about moral character and 'paths' are about how to live on our life journey. Notice also, David believes in absolute truth that comes from THE True God!
  - For Thou are the God of my salvation / Thee I have waited for all day. (Verse 5b)  
**Waiting for savior:** David now declares God as the source of His salvation and that he has waited for His God (so he will not be ashamed).
  - Thou must remember Thy compassions Yahweh and Thy steadfast LOVE / because from eternity they (are). (Verse 6)  
**Remember:** David then requests his God remember both His compassion as a mother for the baby of her womb, and His strong LOVE as a father for his children.
  - The sins of my youth and my transgression, Thou must not remember / according to Thy steadfast LOVE Thou must remember me / on account of Thy goodness, O Yahweh. (Verse 7)  
**NOT transgressions:** David requests his God in this moment to forget his sins and transgressions.  
**According to strong LOVE:** He concludes the first half of our passage with a strong request to be remembered by God through His strong LOVE, on account of His goodness. Ultimately all this was shown in human flesh and blood by Jesus, The Savior.

**II. Yahweh instructs sinners in His steadfast LOVE and truth, forgiving great iniquity to instruct the one fearing Him so he instructs his son. (Psalm 25:8-14; Proverbs 1:7-9)**

- B'. Yahweh instructs sinners in His way of steadfast LOVE and truth, those redeemed and keeping His covenant, on account of His Name. (Psalm 25:8-11)
- Good an upright (is) Yahweh / therefore He will instruct sinners in the way / He will lead the humble in justice (what is right) / and He will teach the humble His way. (Verses 8-9)  
**Instruct:** The verb for 'instruct' is the root of the noun Torah (instruction). Just as Yahweh instructs His people, Israel, a wise man instructs his son as David did with Solomon (Proverbs 4:1-13).  
**Humility:** People who humble themselves before God are led by Him in justice and taught His way.

2. All the paths of Yahweh are steadfast LOVE and truth / to those keeping His covenant and testimonies. (*Verse 10*)  
**Strong LOVE and truth:** All the ways of the covenant God cause people to know His life-changing LOVE and faithful truth.

**Keeping covenant:** This knowledge of God comes to people who faithfully watch their thoughts and actions to live in accordance with all the instruction He gave through Moses.

3. On account of Thy Name Yahweh / forgive my iniquity because it is great. (*Verse 11*)

**Forgiveness:** Combining the final thoughts of this section and the previous section, may we learn to cry out for His forgiveness based on the goodness of His steadfast LOVE and His Name of Savior.

A'. Yahweh will instruct the man fearing Him, speaking as to a son so his children will possess the land. (*Psalms 25:12-14*)

1. Who (is) the man fearing Yahweh / He will instruct him in the way he will choose. (*Verse 12*)

**Fear:** Fear of Yahweh is the beginning of wisdom (Job 28:28; Psalm 111:10; Proverbs 1:7; 9:10).

**Will be instructed:** All people who desire to be like God (holy as He is holy, Leviticus 11:44-45) will be instructed by Him to choose the right way. They will learn from God to do His Torah (instruction).

*A godly man fears Yahweh and learns from Him*

2. His soul in good will lodge / and his offspring will possess the land. (*Verse 13*)

**Lodge in good:** The lives of those living in fear of the covenant God will spend the night in good.

**Offspring possess land:** And their children shall possess the land which God had spoken to Abraham to give to his descendants as a covenant (Genesis 15:13-21).

3. The familiar counsel of Yahweh to those fearing Him / and His covenant He will make them to know. (*Verse 14*)

**Intimacy of God:** God will be a Father who gives counsel to all His children fearing Him.

**Know covenant:** He will make sure they know every aspect of His covenant with them. May we all be fearing Him to experience His intimate Word of counsel to us.

*A godly man fears Yahweh and learns from Him*

C. A father who fears Yahweh instructs his son to protect his head and heart with knowledge. (*Proverbs 1:7-9*)

1. The fear of Yahweh is the beginning of knowledge. (*Verse 7a*)

**Fear:** Those who fear God begin to get knowledge of right and wrong gained by experience of His wonder working power and strong LOVE.

2. Wisdom and instruction fools have despised. (*Verse 7b*)

**Fools:** A foolish person is morally depraved and has no place for disciplinary instruction that comes from the covenant God because he despises it and lacks any fear of God.

3. Thou must hear my son the instruction of thy father / and thou will not forsake the torah (instruction) of thy mother. (*Verse 8*)

**Parents:** Sons must hear so they will not forsake the instruction of both their father and mother.

But Solomon as the father is taking the lead in instructing his son in God's ways of instruction (torah).

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4. Because a wreath of grace they are to thy head / and necklaces to thy neck. (*Verse 9*)

**Grace for head and neck:** All that Yahweh spoke to Moses is grace for the head and neck.

**Instruction in Torah:** Since the carotid artery from the heart goes through the neck to the head, the father may be telling his son that all instruction in Torah is able to give God's grace to his mind and heart. So we must trust God and continually wait in Him to be taught and led by Him in order to correct and instruct children about Him and His ways. These ways are supremely shown in God's Son, The Savior King, full of grace and truth (John 1:14-18). And all may be saved by His grace through faith (Ephesians 2:8-10).

Men who instruct children in all they know about Jesus may become spiritual fathers to children.

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**Conclusion:** All who trust God and wait in Him will be taught by Him, and have their sins forgiven on account of His goodness. In this way, He instructs sinners so they keep His covenant in fear. And then, they instruct children. All fathers (biological, adoptive or spiritual) have a special responsibility by the grace of God to follow the best of David and Solomon as they spoke for God.

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