

Lessons from a 60-year-old man and a 6000-year-old Book

Reading: Proverbs 1:1-9

Intro: My sermons in the past have been said to be “practical” – this one will not be different. We older folks need to train the young – this is one way to do it.

Seven Points to Ponder:

Point 1. Listen to those older and wiser.

The Bible says it like this in Proverbs 4: 10-13:

Listen, my son, accept what I say, and the years of your life will be many. I guide you in the way of wisdom, and lead you along straight paths. When you walk, your steps will not be hampered; when you run, you will not stumble. Hold on to instruction, do not let it go; guard it well, for it is your life.

Point 2. Be careful with sexual desire – it is the great confuser.

Flee from sexual immorality. All other sins a man commits are outside his body, but he who sins sexually sins against his own body. 1 Corinthians 6:18

It is God's will that you should be sanctified: that you should avoid sexual immorality. 1 Thessalonians 4:2

Marriage should be honored by all, and the marriage bed kept pure, for God will judge the adulterer and all the sexually immoral. Hebrews 13:4

Then when lust hath conceived, it bringeth forth sin: and sin, when it is finished, bringeth forth death. James 1:15a

Point 3. Learn to save your money.

I was young and now I am old, yet I have never seen the righteous forsaken or their children begging bread. They are always generous and lend freely; their children will be blessed. Psalm 37:25-26

He who works his land will have abundant food, but the one who chases fantasies will have his fill of poverty. Proverbs 28:18

Point 4. Learn to sacrifice some “wants” so you can have all you need.

But godliness with contentment is great gain. For we brought nothing into the world, and we can take nothing out of it. But if we have food and clothing, we will be content with that. 1 Timothy 6:6-8

If anyone does not provide for his relatives, and especially for his immediate family, he has denied the faith and is worse than an unbeliever.

1 Timothy 5:8

Point 5. Eat right & Exercise – your body will thank you later.

Do not join those who drink too much wine or gorge themselves on meat, for drunkards and gluttons become poor, and drowsiness clothes them in rags. Listen to your father, who gave you life, and do not despise your mother when she is old. Proverbs 23:20-22

All things are lawful unto me, but all things are not expedient: all things are lawful for me, but I will not be brought under the power of any. Meats for the belly, and the belly for meats: but God shall destroy both it and them.

1 Corinthians 6:12-14

Point 6. Develop good habits.

Likewise, exhort the young men to be sober-minded, in all things showing yourself to be a pattern of good works... Titus 2:6-7

Let us not give up meeting together, as some are in the habit of doing, but let us encourage one another—and all the more as you see the Day approaching. Hebrews 10:25

Pray without ceasing. 1 Thessalonians 5:17

Point 7. Begin with the end in sight – set goals in life.

The god of this age has blinded the minds of unbelievers, so that they cannot see the light of the gospel of the glory of Christ, who is the image of God. 2 Corinthians 4:4

Brothers, I do not consider myself yet to have taken hold of it. But one thing I do: Forgetting what is behind and straining toward what is ahead, I press on toward the goal to win the prize for which God has called me heavenward in Christ Jesus. All of us who are mature should take such a view of things. And if on some point you think differently, that too God will make clear to you.

Philippians 3:13-15

Remember it wasn't raining when Noah built the ark!

Parting Shots:

Most people want to serve God, but only in an advisory position.

Exercise daily – Walk with the Lord.

Never give the Devil a ride – He will always want to drive.

Worry is the darkroom in which negatives develop.

Give Satan an inch and He will be a ruler.

Be fishers of men – you catch them and HE will clean them.

Don't wait for 6 men to carry you to church.