

# Opening Wisdom's Treasures

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*Proverbs 4:1-9*

## Synopsis

As we complete our introduction of Proverbs this week, we continue to lay the foundation of what wisdom truly is. We understand that wisdom is not something that is simply given by your natural gifts or something that can be earned by educating yourself, but it is through relationships. When we choose to have others invest in us and have us invest in others, we see the treasures of wisdom grow in our lives.

## Sermon Outline

**Main Idea:** *The treasures of wisdom are found by the relationships you keep.*

1. The Relationships You Keep
  - A. Who is pouring wisdom into you?
  - B. Who are you pouring wisdom into?
  - C. Is there wisdom in your relationship with God?
2. The Treasures Found in Wisdom
  - A. The Treasure of Exaltation and Honor
  - B. The Treasure of Safety and Security
  - C. The Treasure of Life

## Reflection & Discussion Questions

1. **Observing the Text:** First, make sure to have your group spend time looking at the text, and observing the text without reflecting on the sermon. You want the group to get familiar with the text, and the words, and the flow of thought. Keep making observations until you feel the group has a solid grasp of the entire text.
2. In verse 1, for the first time in all of Proverbs, the audience is addressed not as *son* but as *sons*. Is there any significance to the plural rather than just a singular child? As was discussed in the sermon, if you had to think through those you are pouring wisdom into, who would be your figurative *sons*? If no one comes to mind, who should you be investing in?
3. Verse 7, Solomon discusses the importance of getting wisdom. As the NIV translates it, "though it cost all you have, get insight." There can be a cost associated with getting wisdom. What are some of the costs of accruing wisdom? Do you find it worthwhile to pay that cost? What are some sacrifices you have been unwilling to pay in order to find

insight?

4. What are the qualities of someone you want to seek wisdom from? Rehoboam chose poorly in 1 Kings 12:1-15. Why did he choose one group instead of another? How can you avoid making the same mistake?
5. In the text, there are three treasures of wisdom discussed- honor, security, and life. What treasure of wisdom have you experienced in your life? What are some other “treasures” that wisdom brings about in your life that come to mind?

### **For Family Discipleship**

Discuss the idea of linking together in order to get wisdom from someone. Discuss if there was one person you would want to talk to, living or dead, to learn from their wisdom, who would you pick? What can you do in your family to make sure you are growing in wisdom together?

### **For Men and Women**

**For Men:** What is the difference between accountability and wisdom? Can a man you are linking to for wisdom also be holding you accountable or do they need to be two separate roles? Why or why not?

**For Women:** What is the difference between accountability and wisdom? Can a woman you are asking for wisdom, perhaps even asking for mentorship, also be holding you accountable or do they need to be two separate roles? Why or why not?