

Proverbs 2:1-5

Singapore ranks as world's most emotionless society: survey



By Daniel Teo | Yahoo! Newsroom - Wed, Nov 21, 2012

...nearly 9 in 10 Singaporeans are working beyond their official hours



With finite resources:

A choice to do one thing, means a choice not to do another.





Proverbs 2:6

For the Lord gives wisdom; from his mouth come knowledge and understanding;





Job 23:12

Neither have I gone back from the commandment of his lips; I have esteemed the words of his mouth more than my necessary food.













Theme:

Earnestly seek the wisdom of God's Word as a priority.



- A. Condition: Seek God's Word as a priority
- 1. Attitude Receive, Treasure and Learn
- 2. Action Ask, Seek and Search
- B. Result: Growth in relationship with God
- 1. Practical: Understand the fear of the LORD
- 2. Personal: Increase in knowledge of God



Proverbs 2:1

2 preliminary observations:

- 1. "My son..." A Paternal Appeal
- 2. "If...then" A Conditional Promise



A. Seek God's Word as a priority (vv.1-4)

Note parallel objects in vv.1-2

words/commandments (v.1) = wisdom/understanding (v.2)



- A. Seek God's Word as a priority (vv.1-4)
 - 1. Attitude Receive, Treasure and Learn (vv.1-2)
 - "Receive" Receive
 - "Hide...in your heart" Treasure
 - "Incline thine ear, apply thy heart" Learn



"Receive" God's Word

- Hear
- Read
- Others online, audio, DVDs.

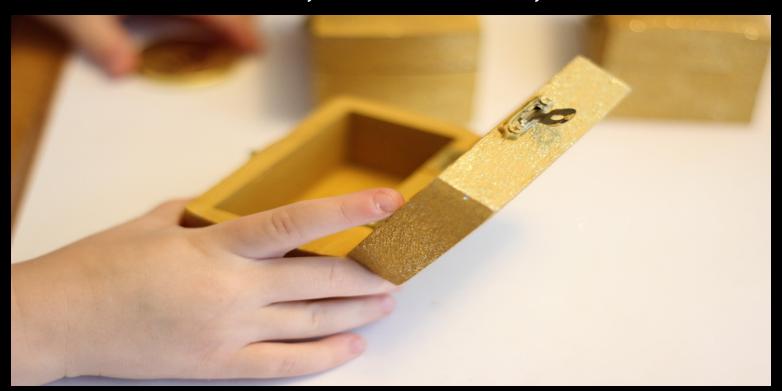


Treasure: Hide in your heart





Treasure: Store, Remember, Memorize!







Learn:

"Incline
thine Ear"

"Apply
thine Heart"



Learn: Incline thine Ear, Apply thine Heart

- Be Teachable Holy Spirit will teach!
- Be Thinking Respond to apply!



- A. Seek God's Word as a priority (vv.1-4)
- 1. Attitude Receive, Treasure & Learn (1-2)
- 2. Action Ask, Seek & Search (3-4)



- 2. Action Ask, Seek and Search (vv.3-4)
- "Criest after, liftest up thy voice for..."
- "Seek as silver"
- "Search as hidden treasure"

Language of pursuit —implies effort, enthusiasm.



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Ask - "Criest after, liftest up thy voice for..."

Ask the Source to impart wisdom!





Seek & Search (as silver & hidden treasure)

Read & re-read — to understand & apply

Language of value (2:4)—this implies adjusting our priorities to what God says is most valuable.



B.Result: Grow in relationship with God (v.5)

- 1. Practical: Understand the fear of the LORD
- 2. Personal: Increase in knowledge of God



Practical:

"Understand the fear of the LORD" -

O.T. concept

positive - reverence / love

negative – fear of consequences of sin

Effect: Right living – departure from sin



Personal: "Knowledge of God"

John 17:2

And this is life eternal, that they might know thee the only true God, and Jesus Christ, whom thou hast sent



Jeremiah 9:23-24

Thus saith the Lord, Let not the wise man glory in his wisdom, neither let the mighty man glory in his might, let not the rich man glory in his riches:

But let him that glorieth glory in this, that he understandeth and knoweth me, that I am the LORD which exercise lovingkindness, judgment, and righteousness, in the earth: for in these things I delight, saith the Lord.





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