



Surrender Your Tendencies Part 1

Lesson 7 • Proverbs 3:1, 11, 21

Anyone who has been around kids for any length of time realize that *all* children have certain tendencies.

- ☐ The tendency to **FORGET** clear commands.
- ☐ The tendency to **REJECT** loving correction.
- ☐ The tendency to **IGNORE** wise counsel.

Even if you are born again and God is your Heavenly Father, *you and I have these same 3 tendencies.*

Proverbs 3:1, 11, 21

Observations

#1 Every time ***“My son”*** appears there is a warning to surrender a foolish tendency **COMMON** to fallen humanity.

#2 Every warning is in the ***negative*** (“do not”), because these are our **NATURAL** tendencies.

We all have certain natural tendencies that cause us to make foolish choices that will be very costly to ourselves and others.

#3 Every ***foolish tendency*** has an opposing ***wise trait*** that needs to **REPLACE** the foolishness in our hearts.

God Is Speaking to Us as a Wise Father and Warning Us:

SURRENDER our foolish tendencies and replace them with wise traits that will keep us on wisdom’s path to success.

Surrender Your Foolish Tendencies

1. The Tendency to **FORSAKE** the Father’s Clear Commands.

“My son, do not forget my teaching,” (3:1)

Why Is Forgetting So Dangerous?

- Forgetfulness leads to **UNFAITHFULNESS** – even apostasy!

*In the Bible ***forgetting*** leads to **FORSAKING***

*In the Bible ***remembering*** leads to **OBEYING***

- When you begin to ***forget*** God’s Word, you will eventually ***forsake*** God **HIMSELF**.

Forgetting the Word of LORD leads to forsaking the LORD of the Word!

2. The Tendency to **RESENT** the Father’s Loving Correction.

“My son, do not reject the discipline of the LORD or loathe His reproof.” (3:11)

- Don't **REJECT** being corrected by the Father.

Despising it and not listening to it as we should.

- Don't **RESENT** being corrected by the Father

Detesting it and not learning from it as we should.

We all have a natural tendency to grow **SO WEARY** of being disciplined that we begin to ***resent it*** and ***reject it*** and ***run from it!***

What Causes Us to Run from the Father's Correction?

- **GUILT** – Proverbs 28:13; Psalm 32:5

- **FEAR** – Proverbs 3:25; 10:24

- **SHAME** – Proverbs 13:18; 15:32; 19:26; 29:15

- **UNBELIEF** – Proverbs 3:12; 13:24

3. The Tendency to **IGNORE** the Father's Wise Counsel.

"My son, do not lose sight of these—keep sound wisdom and discretion." (3:21)

What Does "Not Lose Sight" Mean?

- Don't be **DISTRACTED** and **DISREGARD** what is of great value.

Stay focused and stand guard so God's wisdom is never far from your heart!

What Are We to Focus on and Guard?

- Godly **DISCERNMENT** so you can act with **DISCRETION** no matter who or what crosses your path.

Seeing situations from God's perspective, so you are free to choose wisely no matter what!

What Are We to Do with These Tendencies that Lead to Foolish Choices and Costly Consequences?

- ☐ **SURRENDER THEM** to the LORD!
- ☐ **ACKNOWLEDGE** that they dwell in your heart and you have no ability to control them much less cut them out of your heart.
- ☐ **LEAN NOT** on your own understanding on how to surrender them and overcome them.
- ☐ **BE NOT WISE in YOUR OWN EYES** and think you can deal with them and their consequences apart without the LORD.
- ☐ **FEAR the LORD and TURN AWAY** from the evil consequences that come when we give in to these foolish tendencies.

In Other Words, Apply Proverbs 3:5-7 to Surrender These Foolish Tendencies!

Trust in the LORD with all your heart and ask Him to replace these foolish tendencies with wise traits!

NEXT WEEK: The Wise Father will teach us *three wise traits* that must replace these *three foolish tendencies*.