



For the week of **March 9-14**

Bottom line: **pay attention to who you are listening to**

DAY ONE: Parents Read Colossians 3:20

Mirroring the Old Testament, the apostle Paul gives succinct guidelines for family interactions, *Children, obey your parents in everything, for this pleases the Lord* (Colossians 3:20). For children living in their parents' household, this poses particular challenges when they begin to assert their independence during their junior high, high school and college years.

Sometimes parents make rules that don't make sense, especially not to a 17-year-old with a set of wheels and full tank of gas. But we don't obey our parents because it makes sense to us, we obey because it pleases God. And what pleases God is our submission to the authority he's bestowed on our parents. While the burden is on them to parent well, by yielding to their guidance, you honor your parents and you please your Heavenly Father.

Since you're in a stage of life where you're living under your parents' roof, are you honoring their authority? If not, go to them today to apologize and begin to honor them as unto the Lord.

DAY TWO: Friendly Wounds Read Proverbs 27:1-6

Read the passage and then choose **one verse** that seems important to you and answer one of these three questions:

1. What does it say about God?
2. What does it say about you?
3. What does it say about others?

Then talk to God about what you read/learned and respond appropriately to it.

DAY THREE: Listening Read Proverbs 12:15

In this verse, the writer is making a point that if we're wise, we understand that we need to listen to others. The writer doesn't say, "If you're wise, you don't need advice." No, that's foolish. If we're wise, we understand that we don't know it all—we need people to speak into our lives.

And this is a big deal for some of you right now because there are people who are already TRYING to give you advice—people who actually see your situation more clearly than you do. And you have been so sure that your own way is right—and that you understand the situation better than others—that you have missed the fact that multiple people are all saying the same thing.

But listen, I'm not telling you that all of those people are right. I'm just asking you to pay attention. Pay attention when multiple people who care about you are all saying the same thing. Pay attention when people who care about you are saying something different than your crew who simply laugh at your jokes and like your Instagram posts.

You don't have to agree with them. You don't have to do what they say. But at least hear those people out when they give you advice. In fact, you can take it one step further... **pay attention to who you are listening to.**

Take a few minutes to memorize Proverbs 12:15 and take notice throughout the day of the opportunities you have to listen to others who are a little older, a little wiser and a little further down the road than you are.

DAY FOUR: The Ten Read Exodus 20:1-17

Read the passage and then choose **one verse** that seems important to you and answer the questions that apply:

- Is there a sin to avoid ?
- Is there a promise to claim?
- Is there a command to obey?
- Is there an application to make?
- Is there something new about God?

Then talk to God about what you read/learned and respond appropriately to it.