

“Their purpose is to teach people wisdom and discipline, to help them understand the insights of the wise. Their purpose is to teach people to live disciplined and successful lives, to help them do what is right, just, and fair. These proverbs will give insight to the simple, knowledge and discernment to the young.” Proverbs 1:2-4 NLT

[lectio] // PROVERBS 1-5

listen to the text by reading out loud slowly and repeat up to 3x if desired

Every time I read these beginning words in Proverbs I think, “YES, that’s exactly what I need.” And, still today, I don’t feel as lost or socially abnormal, or delayed. Yes, I am still drawn to wisdom, knowledge and discipline. I used to read a Proverb chapter a day and hear God bring that day’s lesson to life as the day unfolded. I felt like I was given a primer or cliff notes for each day. Robin thinks I should use “cliff notes” in a book title as a double entendres, like notes to keep me from falling off the cliffs of life. I like it. I never felt like I was taught enough or got enough from my sets of parents to “do life” well. Proverbs gave me that edge, like I was learning from the smartest father/son duo ever. Ha, well now I know they weren’t great role models, but they wrote and lived a well WRITTEN story. Do as I write, not as I live kind of thing. So, the teacher showed up as I needed in my young, teen years. Now I happily stay away from prostitutes and try to not act like one of the four fools!

[oratio]

pray as responding to the words, phrase, sentence that God has stirred within you

Dad,

What a glorious life you’ve given me. I married Robin, who is so above my class, intelligence, courage, spirituality and I love. She raised three children who are better, smarter, caring and gifted more than either of us. I never imagined being fat and happy! I could never foresee having so much, and living so full of adventure, sadness and mystery. I want to give, leverage and spend that life capital on others who struggle, who don’t believe it’s true and certainly not for them. I want them to hang out with these amazing people (our family) who are doing life with you.

[contemplatio]

rest in the presence of God, allowing the words revealed to take root