

“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.” Proverbs 1:2-3 NLT

lectio // Proverbs 1:1-7

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

I love the fact that the purpose of this book is spelled out right upfront. “To teach people,” but what do the authors want for the reader? Things we all want in our life: wisdom, discipline, insights of the wise and to help them do what is right, just and fair. These are attributes and characteristics of God himself. What does a successful life look like? To be able to behave in such a manner. I needed those qualities in my life. My parents may or may not have displayed them for me to learn from them. I say may not because our home was filled with quite a bit of chaos because of alcohol. Maybe they did try to teach me wisdom and discipline, but I felt to unsafe and unsure to receive it.

oratio

Dad,

This book and these principles for life have served me ever since I said Yes to you! I remember soaking up every verse, every chapter. I remember mediating on one or two verses and then see how they applied in my daily circumstances. They still guide me. I believe these principles are extremely important in a young man or woman’s life. They answer the question posed by Francis A. Schaeffer - “How should we then live?” Yes, by every word that comes from God, but specifically here in Proverbs. Thank you for wisdom!

contemplatio

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