

“For wisdom is far more valuable than rubies.
Nothing you desire can compare with it.”

Proverbs 8:11 NLT

lectio // Proverbs 8:1-11

Proverbs is the perfect book to have discussions about riches, wealth and living a “good” life. Here, Solomon, who has been quoted to be the richest man in history, says that WISDOM is better than riches. At first glance, it’s an “that’s easy for you to say” attitude. But, what if he’s right? He compares silver, gold and here rubies to wisdom and applied knowledge. Who owns rubies? Because WEALTH doesn’t equal a good life! And being poor doesn’t equal a poor life either. In fact oftentimes wealth can equal a very miserable life. Solomon was gifted wisdom by God when he chose it over wealth. God granted both. Did wealth make him more spiritual? A better leader? A better man, husband, father? I’ll let you research and answer those questions. For me, I wanted to know if Solomon’s wisdom made him a better person as well? The jury is still out on that. As a young person should I choose wealth over wisdom? I’m not sure - I don’t think I would on my own. Hopefully, relying on God, I would choose well. As an older man, husband and father I would definitely choose wisdom over wealth now - no question.

oratio

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

Dad,

I think of the bigger, more important question for me is: how do I SPEND my wisdom and wealth now? You have been so good to me and I have both learned some things and you have blessed us as well. So, how do I pass both on?

contemplatio

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