

“A wise person is hungry for knowledge, while the fool feeds on trash.” Proverbs 15:14 NLT

lectio / Proverbs 15:13-18

There were so many new words and phrases to learn in my forties! I know, four-zero. Making a major shift out of local church ministry and into “para-church,” I termed it “intra-church” because the nonprofit I worked for did so exclusively within the church. My boss and mentor, Wayne Tesch, kept me really busy learning new things. One of the phrases he picked up became an organizational mantra. Be a “life long learner,” Wayne would say. I can now reduce it to a single word - CURIOSITY. Be curious, keep learning. Don't stop being a novice at new things. Being a life-long nerd or techie has helped keep me on the edge of new and caused me to be an early adopter in so many hardware, software, app, a.i. or just automation. It's also helped in bridging and building with those who are twenty or thirty years younger than me. These are people that have watched a favorite video so many times that they can quote entire conversations and you'd never know it was from a few scenes out of Office Space or Rainman. I watch movies (or shows) once, maybe twice - not TEN times. Of course, my newest craze isn't just accumulating random factoids, rather it's figuring out how to gain more wisdom (applied knowledge) rather than just unimpressively quipping Snapple Cap quotes. I wonder what Solomon considered to be “trash” (folly)? I can only guess at modern-day docu-dramas, vampireistic news platforms, or worthless social media consumption. Point, our brains are HUNGRY, what are we going to feed it? An idle brain is a dying brain, so I want to get out there and build some new neural networks 🧠.

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Dad,

I know that the best brain food for me in body, soul and spirit is feasting on your word. That's not cliché, that's spending time with you and with words that are eternal and life-giving. When I spend time in your word, I am refreshed, challenged, filled and inspired to work on applying the things I read and hear from you. Your word is living! May it accomplish every good thing you desire in me.

contemplatio

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