

The Importance of Listening to Advice

Proverbs 30:11-14

Main idea: To encourage youth to value and apply advice from elders and God's guidance in their lives

Topic: Listen to Advice

Suggestions for moving forward with the sermon:

1. Expand on the consequences of not listening to advice: In Proverbs 30:11-14, the passage describes a generation that does not listen to their parents and disregards the wisdom of their elders. You can further emphasize the negative outcomes that can result from ignoring advice, such as making poor decisions, experiencing unnecessary hardships, or missing out on valuable opportunities. Consider incorporating additional verses that highlight the importance of seeking counsel, such as Proverbs 12:15 and Proverbs 19:20.
2. Discuss the benefits of listening to advice: Explore the positive impact that listening to advice can have on the lives of young people. Share examples from the Bible, such as Joseph who heeded his father's advice and became a great leader in Egypt. Incorporate verses like Proverbs 13:10 and Proverbs 15:22, which emphasize the wisdom gained from seeking guidance from others.
3. Address common obstacles to listening to advice: Acknowledge that it can be challenging for youth to accept advice, as they may feel independent or resistant to authority. Offer practical suggestions on how they can overcome these obstacles, such as cultivating humility, developing a teachable spirit, and recognizing the value of

learning from others' experiences. Consider including verses like Proverbs 11:14 and Proverbs 16:18-19 to support these points.

4. Highlight the role of God's guidance: Remind the youth that seeking advice is not limited to human sources but also includes seeking God's guidance through prayer and studying His Word. Incorporate verses like Psalm 32:8 and Proverbs 3:5-6 to emphasize the importance of relying on God's wisdom in decision-making.

5. Provide practical steps for applying advice: Offer practical suggestions on how youth can actively apply the advice they receive. Encourage them to reflect on their own lives, identify areas where they need guidance, and seek advice from trusted mentors, parents, or spiritual leaders. Incorporate verses like James 1:22-25 to emphasize the importance of not just hearing advice but also putting it into action.

Language suggestions and additional verses:

- In Proverbs 30:11-14, the Hebrew word for "curse" (alah) can be further explored to convey the severity of the consequences of not listening to advice. This word is also used in Deuteronomy 27:15-26, where curses are pronounced for disobedience, providing a parallel to the consequences discussed in your sermon.
- Consider incorporating Proverbs 1:8-9, which emphasizes the importance of listening to parental instruction and the benefits it brings.
- The Hebrew word for "mock" (la'ag) in Proverbs 30:14 can be explored to highlight the attitude of disrespect towards advice. This word is also used in Proverbs 14:21,

where it describes the one who mocks the poor, providing a connection to the negative consequences of disregarding advice.

Remember to weave these suggestions seamlessly into your sermon, reinforcing your main ideas and encouraging the youth to embrace the wisdom and guidance available to them.