

sermon notes

Pastor Tony Caffey, VBVF | Fearing Deity & Defying Stupidity
June 2, 2024 | “Putting Childish Ways Aside” | **Proverbs 22:1–16**

Put these childish ways aside:

- 1) _____ and _____ (22:1–4)
- 2) _____ and _____ (22:5–8)
- 3) _____ and _____ behavior (22:9–12)
- 4) _____ folly and _____ folly (22:13–15)
- 5) _____ (22:16)

Questions for further application of God’s Word:

GO DEEPER

Read Proverbs 22:1–16. What are some childish and immature behaviors stated in this passage? How is immaturity combated (22:6, 15)? What are some childish behaviors that you’ve put behind you as a follower of Christ? What are some childish behaviors that are still lingering in your life?

What does it mean to have a “good name” (22:1)? How does one go about establishing a good name? What does it mean to have a “good (bountiful) eye” (22:9)?

Proverbs 22:1–16 says a lot about wealth and riches. How should a wise person handle wealth? What are some immature ways of handling riches? How does Proverbs 22:2 level the playing field for rich and poor?

GET PERSONAL

Read Proverbs 22:6. In what ways were you “trained up” as a child in the ways of the Lord? Did that training stick? How do parents train up their children in the fear of the Lord? How does a church help parents accomplish this? Why do we need to approach Proverbs 22:6 as a truism and not a promise? For more on the issue of Proverbs and promises, see the following APJ podcast with John Piper: <https://www.desiringgod.org/interviews/does-proverbs-promise-my-child-will-not-stray>

Also see Pastor Tony’s podcast on the book of Proverbs here:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=zCVEJlyMMZg&list=UULFlzRU-or9r6K6bgGQJkDKxg&index=29>

PUT IT INTO PRACTICE

Solomon castigates “the scoffer” (22:10) and “the sluggard” (22:13) in the community. But there is a little bit of “scoffing” and “sluggardliness” in all of our hearts. How do you battle that? How do you battle the temptation of the “forbidden women” (22:14)?

ADVANCED QUESTION

Read Mark 10:13–16 (see also Matt 18:1–6; 19:13–15; Luke 18:15–17). What does Jesus mean when he says, “Whoever does not receive the kingdom of God like a child shall not enter it.” Solomon challenges us in the book of Proverbs to not be childish. But Jesus calls us to be child-like. How do we harmonize these Scriptures?