

# Proverbs

Keys to Understanding

# Keys to Understanding the Book of Proverbs

Key # 1 The fear of the LORD is the heart of wisdom.

Key # 2 The organization of the book of Proverbs is genius.

Key # 3 Proverbs is a type of literature.

Key # 4 Growing in wisdom is a process.

Key # 5 Proverbs fills a gap between the “theory” of God’s law and “living” God’s law.

# Keys to Understanding the Book of Proverbs

Key # 4 Growing in wisdom is a process.

The Proverbs of Solomon son of David, king of Israel:  
for attaining **wisdom** and **discipline**;  
for **understanding** words of **insight**;  
for acquiring a **disciplined** and **prudent** life,  
doing what is **right** and **just** and **fair**;  
for giving **prudence** to the **simple**,  
**knowledge** and **discretion** to the **young** –  
let the **wise** listen and add to their **learning**,  
and let the **discerning** get guidance –  
for **understanding** proverbs and parables, the sayings and  
riddles of the wise.

The fear of the LORD is the beginning of **knowledge**, but  
fools despise **wisdom** and **discipline**.

Proverbs 1: 1-7

Knowledge *Knowledge*

Discipline  
*Instruction*

Understanding *Perceive*  
Insight *Understandings*

Learning  
*Understanding*

Prudence *Prudence*  
Discretion *Discretion*

Wisdom *Wisdom*

Right, Just, Fair  
*Justice, Judgment, Equity*

NIV in black  
NKJV in blue and italic

<b>Wise Path</b>	<b>Foolish Path</b>	<b>Tradesman</b>
Simple	Simple	Apprentice
Young	Mocker	Journeyman
Discerning	Folly	Craftsman
Wise	Foolish	Master Craftsman

# Keys to Understanding the Book of Proverbs

Key # 3 Proverbs is a type of literature.

# Contradiction or Not

Proverbs 26:4 Do not answer a fool according to his folly, or you will be like him yourself.

Vs.

Proverbs 26:5 Answer a fool according to his folly, or he will be wise in his own eyes.

# Hebrew Poetry

Key: A, what's more B

- A** Stern discipline awaits him who leaves the path;  
**B** he who hates correction will die. Prov 15:10
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- A** The fear of the LORD teaches a man wisdom,  
**B** and humility comes before honor. Prov 15:33

# Promise or Not

Proverbs 22:6 Train a child in the way he should go, and when he is old he will not turn from it.

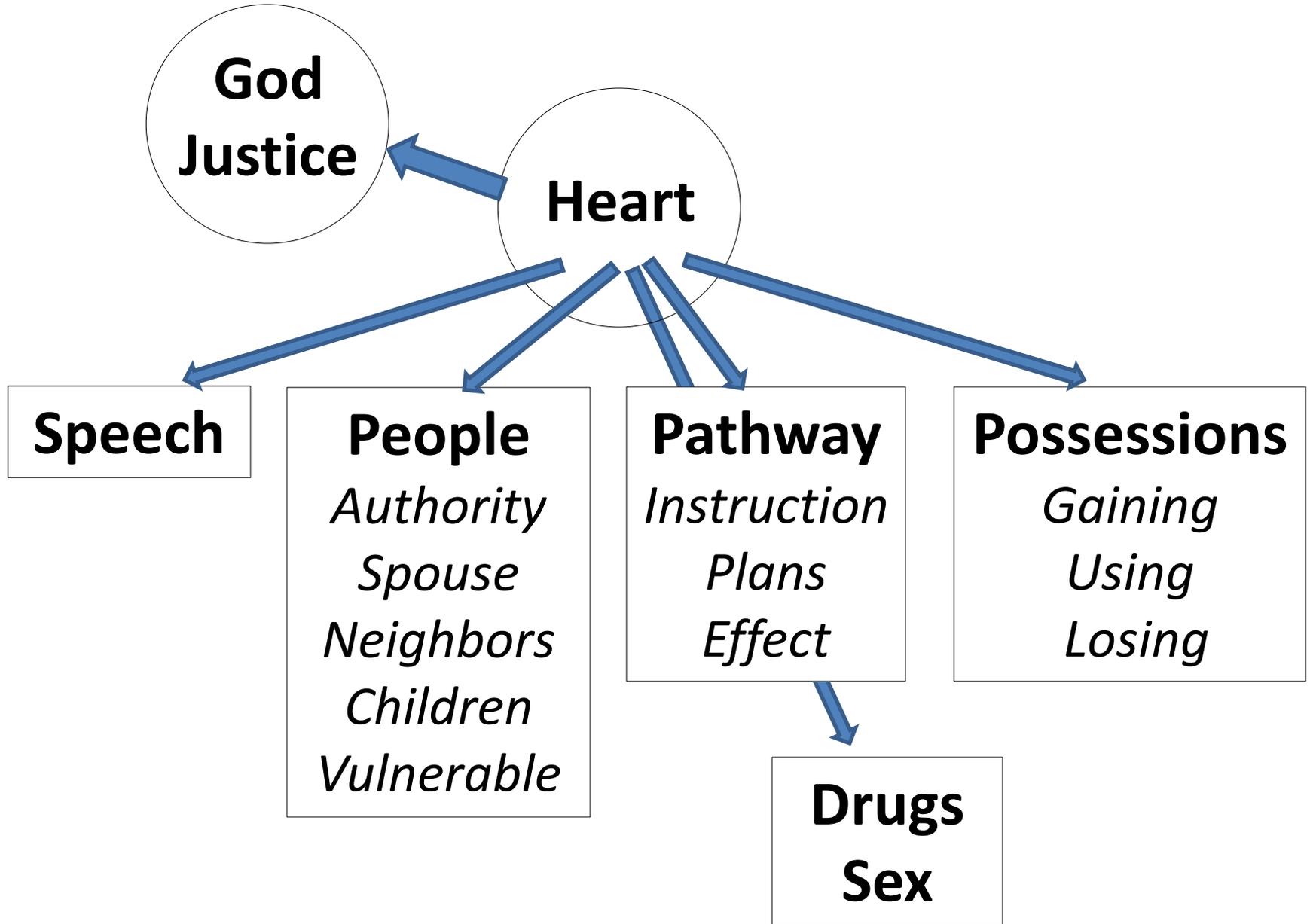
Vs.

John 3:16 For God so loved the world that He gave His only begotten Son, that whoever believes in Him should not perish but have everlasting life.

# Keys to Understanding the Book of Proverbs

Key # 2 The organization of the book of Proverbs is genius.

# Main Categories in Proverbs



# Putting the Pieces Together

Sign/Symptom	Condition	Heart
Strife Quarrels Insults Insolent fury  Prov 13:10 Prov 22:10	Look for the mockers  Prov 21: 24	Pride and arrogance  Prov 13:10 Prov 21: 24

# Keys to Understanding the Book of Proverbs

Key # 1 The fear of the LORD is the heart of wisdom.

# The Most Important Key

The fear of the LORD is the beginning of knowledge. Prov 1:7

The fear of the LORD is the beginning of wisdom, and the knowledge of the Holy One is understanding. Prov 9:10

The fear of the LORD – that is wisdom, and to shun evil is understanding. Job 28:28

# The Most Reasonable Path

Trust in the Lord with all your heart, and lean not on your own understanding; in all your ways acknowledge Him, and He shall direct your paths. Prov 3:5-6

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