

Strayed from the Straight Path

Description

Proverbs 4:10-17

Proverbs 4 is both hard and hopeful. It's hard, because if you've lived long at all, you've known someone who has walked "in the way of evildoers" (v. 14) and are familiar with the heartache and heartbreak that comes with it.

Whether your own detour, that of a loved one, or an acquaintance, we've all seen the havoc. We tell children not to even go near a potential danger. "Avoid it!" we instruct and plea and hope the warning sticks as they continue to mature. For those carrying the burden of someone who has wandered off the straight path: Our good God is still rescuing and redeeming. Take heart and press on.

This scripture is also hopeful; we're reminded that God's instruction leads us along straight paths. It reminds us that as we walk in the way of wisdom, our steps won't be impeded. We are affirmed in continuing to hold on to instruction—even when it's called archaic or old-fashioned.

Take a moment and consider instruction that has shaped your life, then ask God for wisdom and protection. What roads or steps would you caution someone against? Pray for someone facing such temptations.

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