

Dear Heavenly Father,

### *Praise*

You said that the costly sacrifice of the wicked is an abomination to you, but you delight in the simple prayer of the upright (Prov 15:8). What a comforting, encouraging thought! I often feel like I have nothing of importance or worth to bring to you, but you find great joy in just hearing me pray. I purpose to worship you today by walking in the light of your word!

### *Today in Your Word*

Today you told me more of Solomon's proverbs. A recurring theme is the importance of being teachable: "He who neglects discipline despises himself, But he who listens to reproof acquires understanding" (Prov 15:32 NASB). This shows me that being teachable means receiving criticism and correction graciously. How hard that is to do! My first reaction is to justify my behavior and defend my actions. Yet when I do that—when I ignore reproof and reject discipline—I am really despising myself. A teachable person welcomes instruction. A teachable person is willing to humble themselves and say, "I was wrong, please forgive me." A teachable person responds to criticism with gratitude. They say, "Thank you for caring enough to share that with me. I will make it a matter of prayer." When I swallow my pride and receive your rebuke, I have your smile and your approval. Truly, "He whose ear listens to the life-giving reproof Will dwell among the wise" (Prov 15:31 NASB). That's exactly where I want to be!

### *Reflection*

Solomon was immensely wealthy and had everything his heart desired. Yet he kept saying things like, "Better is a little with the fear of the LORD than great treasure and trouble with it" (Prov 15:16). I need to meditate on this truth and allow it to transform my thinking about the pursuit of wealth and possessions.

### *Request*

Father, I can plan and prepare all I want, but the outcome is in your hands (Prov 16:9). Therefore, I commit my work to you and ask you to establish my plans (Prov 16:3).

### *Thanksgiving*

Thank you for painting a clear and compelling picture of what it means to be wise. I'm grateful for your guidance and instruction. May my heart always welcome the voice of your precious Holy Spirit!

In Jesus' name, Amen.

*Suggested Hymn: "[Teach Me Thy Way, O Lord](#)" – Benjamin M. Ramsey.*

*Meditation Verse: Proverbs 17:17.*