**PONDER THE PATH**

Proverbs 4:26

26 [**Ponder the path of thy feet, and let all thy ways be established.**](http://www.kingjamesbibleonline.org/Proverbs-4-26/)

**INTRO:**

**1. Notice the Education and Ponder the Path**

**\*\*This is a father instructing his son in wisdom telling him and showing him the difference between right paths and wrong paths.**

**Proverbs 4:11 11**[**I have taught thee in the way of wisdom; I have led thee in right paths.**](http://www.kingjamesbibleonline.org/Proverbs-4-11/)

**Proverbs 4:14 14**[**Enter not into the path of the wicked, and go not in the way of evil *men*.**](http://www.kingjamesbibleonline.org/Proverbs-4-14/)

**Proverbs 4:18 18**[**But the path of the just *is* as the shining light, that shineth more and more unto the perfect day.**](http://www.kingjamesbibleonline.org/Proverbs-4-18/)

**\*\*Then in Proverbs 4:26, he says, “Son – Ponder the Path and get established!”**

**\*\*Oh how I wish those friends, loved ones, and past church people would just ponder the path and look back for a moment.**

**\*\*Has your path been a walk with the Savior and the Holy Spirit, or with sin and Satan?**

**\*\*We must take a look and ponder the path!**

**2. Notice the Embracing and Ponder the Path**

**Proverbs 4:10 10**[**Hear, O my son, and receive my sayings; and the years of thy life shall be many.**](http://www.kingjamesbibleonline.org/Proverbs-4-10/)

**Proverbs 4:13 13**[**Take fast hold of instruction; let *her* not go: keep her; for she *is* thy life.**](http://www.kingjamesbibleonline.org/Proverbs-4-13/)

**3. Notice the Enjoyment and Ponder the Path**

1. **God has blessed this place!**
* **We’re blessed with Christian people.**
* **We’re blessed with church peace. (Everybody loves one another here.)**
1. **God has blessed these people!**
* **He’s provided spiritual grace.**
* **He’s provided spiritual growth.**
1. **God has blessed this preacher!**
* **I’m blessed just to get to preach. (It is a privilege to preach exactly where God wants me!)**
* **I’m blessed just to get to pastor. (It is a privilege to pastor exactly where God wants me.)**

**\*\*In other words, I have pondered this path, and I’m enjoying the path that God has put me on! Can you say the same?**

**\*\*Our text said that this father instructed this son by showing him the right way, and showing him to avoid the wicked way. Then he told that son to Ponder the Path and embrace the right path, engage in the right path, and then get established in the right path!**

**\*\*We must go beyond just instructing our kids and grandkids! We better help them to ponder the path (good and evil) and help them get established in the old paths of God!**

**\*\*Let’s Ponder the Path ourselves and get established ourselves, and get determined to stay in the paths of God!**

**Body: PONDER THE PATH**

**\*\*I’ve Pondered the Path and I’m Determined That . . .**

1. **I Will Not Be Quitting!**
2. **I Won’t Quit the Old-Time Paths**

**\*\* God’s blessed us too much for us to quit the old-time paths!**

**\*\* Jeremiah 6:16** [**Thus saith the LORD, Stand ye in the ways, and see, and ask for the old paths, where *is* the good way, and walk therein, and ye shall find rest for your souls.**](http://www.kingjamesbibleonline.org/Jeremiah-6-16/)

1. **I’m going to keep living the Old Paths.**
2. **I’m going to keep loving the Old Paths.**

**\*\* God’s blessed me too much for me to quit now the old-time path that He has put me in!**

1. **I Won’t Quit the Old-Time Power**

**Acts 1:8 [But ye shall receive power, after that the Holy Ghost is come upon you:](http://www.kingjamesbibleonline.org/Acts-1-8/%22%20%5Co%20%22View%20more%20translations%20of%20Acts%201%3A8)**

1. **It’s my help.**
2. **Helps me to preach!**
3. **Helps me to praise!**
4. **It’s my hope.**
5. **It’s the hope for my church!**
6. **It’s the hope for my children**

 **\*\* God’s blessed me too much for me to quit**

 **this old-time power!!**

1. **I Won’t Quit the Old-Time Preaching**

**Isaiah 58:1** [**Cry aloud, spare not, lift up thy voice like a trumpet, and shew my people their transgression, and the house of Jacob their sins**](http://www.kingjamesbibleonline.org/Isaiah-58-1/)**.**

1. **Old-Time Preaching Exposes Sin**
2. **Old-Time Preaching Explains Salvation**
3. **Old-Time Preaching Edifies Saints**

**\*\*Let’s keep loving the preaching of God’s Word!**

1. **I Will Not Be Quiet!**
2. **I’ll Continue Shouting!**

**Psalms 32:11 Be glad in the LORD, and rejoice, ye righteous: and shout for joy, all *ye that are* upright in heart. What can I shout about?**

1. **I can Shout about His Goodness!**
2. **I can Shout about His Grace!**
3. **I can Shout about His Glory!**
4. **I’ll Continue Singing**

**Psalms 104:33 I will sing unto the LORD as long as I live:**

1. **Sing about the Blood**
2. **Sing about the Blessings**
3. **Sing about the Bible**
4. **I’ll Continue Speaking**

**I Peter 4:11 If any man speak, *let him speak* as the oracles of God (Oracles means as the words of God)**

1. **Speak Truth**
2. **Talk about His gospel!**
3. **Talk about His grace!**
4. **Speak Testimonies**
5. **Talk about the conviction**
6. **Talk about the conversion**
7. **Talk about the confirmation**
8. **Talk about the cross**
9. **Speak Teachings**
10. **Lead your children in devotions**
11. **Lead your church in devotions**

**\*\* God has blessed us way too much for us to sit in the shadows and be quiet when He has told us to shout it, sing it, and speak it!**

**\*\*Ponder the Path and make up your mind to embrace it and to get established in it!**

1. **I Will Not Be Quenching!**

**\*\* If we quench the Holy Ghost they’ll not be any . .**

1. **Utterance**

**Romans 8:26c but the Spirit itself maketh intercession for us with groanings which cannot be uttered.**

**We need the Holy Ghost to tell us . . .**

1. **When we’re Lost**
2. **Where we Lack**
3. **Ways we’re to Live**

**\*\* I could preach all day, but if we don’t have the Holy Ghost no one will ever hear from the Lord!**

1. **Urgency**

**It’s the Holy Ghost that expresses . . .**

1. **The sense of urgency for the NOW!**
2. **The sense of urgency for the NEED!**

**\*\*When you got saved there was a sense of urgency supplied by the Holy Ghost! Get your Need met right Now!!**

1. **Understanding**

**II Kings 6:17 Elisha prayed and said, Lord I pray thee, open his eyes that he may see.**

1. **Helps us understand the ruin.**
2. **Helps us understand repentance.**
3. **Helps us understand re-birth.**
4. **Helps us understand redemption!**
5. **Unction**

**I John 2:20 [But ye have an unction from the Holy One, and ye know all things.](http://www.kingjamesbibleonline.org/1-John-2-20/%22%20%5Co%20%22View%20more%20translations%20of%201%20John%202%3A20)**

1. **Puts the power in our scriptures!**
2. **Puts the pep in our step!**
3. **Puts the praise in our singing!**

**\*\* I’ve pondered the path, and God has blessed us way too much for us to quench the Spirit! You cannot have church without it!!**

1. **I Will Not Be Questioning**
2. **God’s Word**
3. **I’ll believe it voluntarily!**

**I’ll hide it’s words in my . . .**

**Heart, Head, Home, and Habits**

1. **I’ll believe it verbatim!**

**(From Genesis to the Revelation, I believe it all!)**

1. **I’ll believe its value!**
2. **It’s esteemed**
3. **It’s eternal**
4. **God’s Ways**

**God’s ways are . . .**

1. **Peculiar (His ways are not our ways.)**
2. **Purposeful**
3. **Providers**
4. **Powerful**
5. **Perfect**

**\*\*Sometimes we don’t agree with His ways, but I’m not going to question His ways!!**

**\*\* God has blessed me way too much for me to question His Word and His Ways!**

**\*\*I have pondered the path, and I’m going to stick with God’s Word, God’s Way, and God’s Will!**

**Close**

1. **Have you pondered the path and gotten established in knowing that you will not quit the old-time paths, power, and preaching?**
2. **Have you pondered the path and gotten established in knowing you will not be quiet concerning the things of God? If you are a shouter then shout! If you are a singer then sing! If you are a speaker then speak!**
3. **Have you pondered the path and gotten established in knowing that you will not quench the Holy Spirit? How many know we have to have the Holy Spirit’s utterance, urgency, understanding, and unction?**
4. **Have you pondered the path and gotten established in knowing that you will not question God’s Word or God’s Ways?**

**\*\*I beg of you today to ponder the path concerning right, concerning repentance, concerning righteousness, and concerning revival! Then choose which is right and get established therein!**

**\*\*Have you pondered the path? What is your choice? If you choose the Lord’s paths today, come and cry unto the Lord and pray!**