

# Proverbs 2:20

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

That thou mayest walk in the way of good men, and keep the paths of the righteous.

## Analysis

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The result of wisdom: walking in the way of good men and keeping paths of the righteous. Wisdom produces righteous conduct and association with godly community. The verse presents ethical behavior as both individual character and communal participation. Good men's ways are worth imitating; righteous paths are worth maintaining. This balance between individual responsibility and communal influence characterizes biblical ethics.

## Historical Context

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Reflects covenant community structure where righteous example and communal accountability supported faithfulness. Walking in righteousness was both personal decision and participation in community of faith.

## Related Passages

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**John 15:13** — Greatest form of love

**1 John 4:8** — God is love

## Study Questions

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1. Who are the 'good men' whose ways you're currently following?

2. How does your conduct demonstrate that you're keeping the paths of the righteous?

## Interlinear Text

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לִמְעַן	תִּלְךָ	בְּדֶרֶךְ	טוֹבִים	וְאֵלֶּכָּה	צְדִיקִים
H4616	H1980	in the way	of good	the paths	of the righteous
		H1870	H2896	H734	H6662

תִּשְׁמְרוּ:

men and keep  
H8104

## Additional Cross-References

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**Hebrews 6:12** (Parallel theme): That ye be not slothful, but followers of them who through faith and patience inherit the promises.

**Psalms 119:115** (Parallel theme): Depart from me, ye evildoers: for I will keep the commandments of my God.

**Proverbs 13:20** (Parallel theme): He that walketh with wise men shall be wise: but a companion of fools shall be destroyed.

**Jeremiah 6:16** (Good): 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. But they said, We will not walk therein.

**3 John 1:11** (Good): Beloved, follow not that which is evil, but that which is good. He that doeth good is of God: but he that doeth evil hath not seen God.